

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF

SAINT LOUIS FANZINE.2

HARDCORE & PUNK ROCK

IN THIS ISSUE...

SICK OF IT ALL BAD BUSINESS

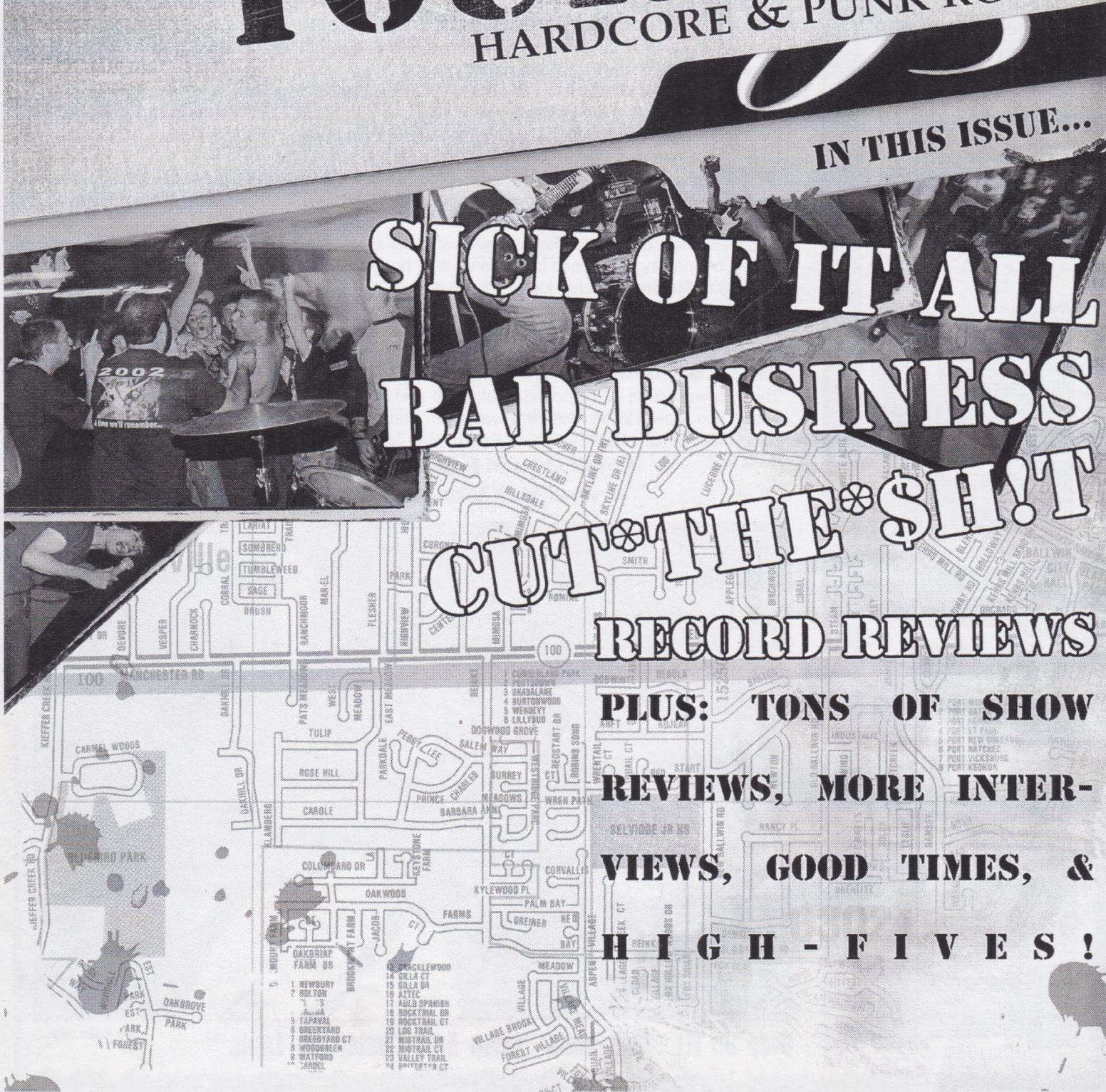
CUT THE \$H!T RECORD REVIEWS

PLUS: TONS OF SHOW

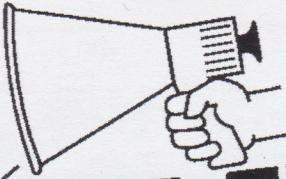
REVIEWS, MORE INTER-

VIEWS, GOOD TIMES, &

HIGH-FIVES!



SPEAK FOR YOURSELF



N

L
P
S
9
9
9

Here it is, Issue #2, If you couldn't tell from the huge type to your left.

Hopefully there are less (Less! not perfect!) copy editing mistakes this time around. Thanks to Devil Dan for offering to copy edit some of the articles, even though some corrections didn't get in by press time. I'm pretty much embarrassed of Issue #1, but as of right now, I still have a few left for sale. Don't look for a reprint.

This time around, I had a lot more people contribute, but I still had the same record reviewed twice. Thanks to all the people who took pictures for this issue, I suck at photography and this would be pretty boring to look at without the great photography of Kate, Shannon, and Jayme Lyn.

We also have a website now with mp3s of bands that are coming to town, news, pictures, and flyers. Check out www.stlpunk.com and search for SPEAK FOR YOURSELF fanzine. I update it fairly often.

You'll also notice two local band interviews in this issue. Issue #1 had a few pictures of local bands, but nothing more, and that was another huge mistake.

Thanks to Stephanie Richardson for helping me with this thing (computer stuff) too.

Zines are a money pit, and also a big consumer of my time when I should be doing something more important, but this is too much fun to put together to quit now.

As always, if you would like to contribute, the best way is to e-mail me at lucchesi217@yahoo.com, and we'll see what you have.

This zine was made with notepad, photoshop, and in-design. Not scissors, glue sticks, or blank paper. You know it looks better this way, even if lacks some sort of punk charm.

Oh yeah, NO CONTENTS PAGE! Read it start-to-finish, jerks.

-Nick 217

Cover art and logo done by Adam Bertels.

www.pickleheadproductions.com



Step On It! Dec. 2003 Lemp Arts Center, St. Louis

kate silver

CONTRIBUTOR PLAYLISTS

Nick Maxey
Monopoly nickel slots at Harrahs.
Jay-Z
Sreet Trash
SideXWalk
Voorhees
No Justice
Rod Stewart
Pasta
Portishead
Recording a 7"

Adam "Picklehead" Bertels
Faith No More/The Dirty
Three
Circle Of Dead Children
Cornelius
Floor
Panic
Striking Distance
SUNNO)))

Joe Sulier
Get Hustle
Ex-Models
Morrissey
Some Girls
The Monorchid
Lifetime
Black Dice
Television
Street Trash
Ink and Dagger

Devil Dan
Suicidal Tendencies
Stormtroopers of Death
DRI
Spazz/Lack of Interest
Municipal Waste
Total Fury
Anal Mucus
Modern Life is War
MC Chris

xPaulx
The Distance
Stand & Fight
Embrace Today
The Bronx
Gorilla Biscuits
Some Girls
Give up the Ghost
The First Step
Scraps and Heartattacks
Bad Business

NICK 217
Time Flies
Annihilation Time
Step on It!
Sick Of It All
Side X Walk
Think I Care
The Exploding Hearts
Dead Kennedys
Desperate Measures
Integrity
Underdog

Jayme Lyn
Say Goodbye
Have Heart
The Effect!
Shoot To Kill
The Smiths
Lost In Translation[movie]
Pecker[movie]

Travis
Kid Dynamite
Dillinger Four
Modern Life Is War
Blue Monday
The Effect!
Saves The Day
No Warning
Propagandhi
Jaguarz
Chain Of Strength

Adam "The Devastator"
Bad Business
Pleasure Forever
Blacklisted
The Distance
Mos Def
Outbreak
Asian Dub Foundation
Step on it!
Seyarse
The Holy Ghost

Andrew Diaz
Agnostic Front
Danzig
He Who Corrupts
Punch In The Face
The Oath
Ghostface Killah
Brainbombs

Andrew Smith
The Darkness
Lightning Bolt
Turbonegro
Spazz
Voivod
Cut The Shit
G.I. Joe Killaz
Adolescents
Combat Wounded Veteran

Mikey Bones
Gang Starr
Some Kind of Hate
Madball
Stephanie Richardson
Minor Threat,
Blood For Blood
Misfits
Gorilla Biscuits
Silence of the Lambs [movie]
Bane
Give up the Ghost
The Nightmare Before Christmas
Warzone

Andy Hamilton
Funeral Orchestra
Winter
Disembowelment
Thor's Hammer
Cathedral
Cephalic Carnage

Scott Plant
Zero Boys
III Repute
Think I Care
Oath/Total Fury Split
Born Against
In My Eyes - both LPs, everyday

Kate Silver
Bon Jovi
Comeback Kid
The Cure
The Requiem
With Honor

Brandon Hoffman
The Black Keys
Casey X Jones
Career Suicide
Tear It Up
Give Up The Ghost
Carry On
Embrace Today
The Faith/Void - Split
Rottensound
The Damned
Modern Life is War

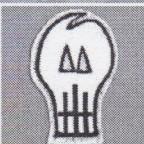
"Herrin" Josh Russell
Say Goodbye - LP
Sidewalk - Demo
Think I Care - LP
Macho Man and the slim
jims - Demo
Oasis - Definitely Maybe

Pat C.
Led Zeppelin
Suicidal Tendencies
Outkast
John Lee Hooker

Phil
With Honor
Terror
Nappy Roots
Embrace Today

Chris Kenyon
Converge
Kinghorse
Pretty girls make graves
Don Caballero
Sunny Day Real estate
Radiohead
Morrissey
Johnny Cash
Merle Haggard
Suicide File
Bane

LIFELINE RECORDS



KILL YOUR IDOLS FOR OUR FRIENDS 12"/CDep. LLR-04

8 SONGS, 6 NEW ONES, A RE-DONE VERSION OF "ALL THAT AND VANS TOO" ORIGINALLY ON "FUNERAL FOR A FEELING" AND AN EXPLOITED COVER. SPANNING FROM THEIR EARLIER YEARS WITH A RAWER SOUND, TO THE MOST RECENT MORE MELODIC URGENT WORK, THIS RECORD COVERS IT ALL. SPLIT RELEASE WITH UNDERESTIMATED RECORDS.



MODERN LIFE IS WAR 7" LLR-03

ORIGINALLY DONE BY THE BAND, BUT IS NOW AVAILABLE AGAIN. SINCERE, AGGRESSIVE, MELODIC HARDCORE FROM THESE HARD WORKING IOWA BOYS.



ALSO AVAILABLE:

PLAN OF ATTACK- NO FUTURE 7"

FAST, PISSED OFF HARDCORE, FOR FANS OF OUTBURST AND JUDGE. LIMITED COLOR AVAILABLE. (SILENT ARCHITECT RECORDS)



DEF CHOICE 7" LLR-02

FAST HARDCORE IN THE VEIN OF BORN AGAINST AND FOR FANS OF LIFE'S HALT.

LIFELINE RECORDS

PO BOX 692

MIDLOTHIAN, IL 60445

WWW.LIFELINERECORDS.NET

7" - \$5 PPD US, \$7 WORLD

12" \$7PPD/\$12 CDep \$6PPD /\$10

COMING SOON: MODERN LIFE IS WAR EUROPEAN TOUR June 11th-July 4th - KYI/MLIW live split 7"

SICK OF IT ALL

This interview was done on Oct. 29, 2003 with Lou (vocals) and Armand (drums). This was during their time on the VANS "Off the Wall Tour." We talked about all things hardcore, their new album, "LIFE ON THE ROPES," washed up hardcore icons, why it's cool for bands to break up and then re-unite a year later, when that damn BRIDGE 9 ep is coming out, how much Vans shoe co. sucks at doing tours, the Warped Tour, Jack Osbourne's fat ass, where the hell the old bass player is now, and what songs would be good for a "BEST OF BOLD" mixtape.

All photos by Emiy and Mikey Bones

-Speak For Yourself- Lou, where's the rat tail at? Did you save it when you cut it off?

-Lou- Dude, you know, I actually have my ratail in my house.

-Speak For Yourself-did you save it??? is it in a box or...

-Lou- It's in a ceramic bowl with a cover with the alleyway dragon on the top that Pete made when he used to work at a ceramics shop... and I put my rat tail in it.

-Speak For Yourself- is it an heirloom or something now?

-Lou- You wanna know the truth about the rat tail? I'll tell you the truth I never told anybody else.-Lou- I had broken up with my girlfriend, and about a week later I met this girl at a show and the girl came home with me. The next morning my ex-girlfriend had came to my apartment... walks into the apartment and sees me in bed with this girl. eh, we were broken up. well, she fuckin attacked the other girl. I grabbed her to stop her from attacking the girl... and she ripped the ratail, roots and all out of the back of my head. True story. that's the first time I've ever told that story, and it's the truth because its almost 10 years now.

-Armand- once you hit that 10 year mark, its time to tell the truth.

-Lou- The weird thing is, when it came out, it was almost a perfect rectangle.

-Armand- and it didn't grow back in for like....

-Lou- I had to shave my head up to here (points to about top of ear level on the back of his head) like to the back of my, I had to have a fade, a real stupid lookin' haircut for like 8 months. the best is I went to my barber and he's all like "Oh, uhhh that's not good, that was girl trouble, right?"... how'd ya know? yeah, she ripped that shit right out. so yeah, the truth, I have it at home.

-Armand- we should totally bring the ratail back.

-Lou- I think Armand should have rat tails from his forearms, he'd be like Ozzy wearing those things....

(in walks someone to tell them where the showers are, and mentions something about the school)

-Speak For Yourself- which brings up the next question... You guys know this is like the number 9 school in the country?

-Lou- Number nine??? for what?

-Speak For Yourself- for academics, its pretty much ivy league

-Armand- No way.. really????

-Speak For Yourself- yeah seriously, everyone here is like a bio-chem. major or pre med...

-Lou- good for them

-Speak For Yourself- yea exactly.. but, how many people at the show tonight do you actually think are from this school?

-Lou- I'd say... the people who work here

-Armand- see, that's why hardcore shows don't really work at colleges, because basically, you only draw townies...

-Lou- if we were an acoustic, ya know, surfer guys that sang about weed, we'd probably do pretty good here.



"WE DON'T NEED FRIENDS LIKE YOU!" ...Oct. 29 -- St. Louis, MO

-Armand- you really have to be on the radio or MTV to have some really good shows at colleges

-Speak For Yourself- well recently ya know, there was that Hatebreed/Madball tour of mostly colleges..

-Lou- all college tour?

-Speak For Yourself- yeah, all college towns. a lot throughout the Midwest.

-Lou- yeah college towns, but not on campus. I mean we'll have good shows in college towns. Like, we'll play Lawrence, Kansas but we're not playing the college... we're playing the town.

-Speak For Yourself- So, you guys are going on tour with Hatebreed? Is that what I read?

-Lou- Yeah, we're doing the Stillborn Fest, its only East Coast, its like what...

-Armand- its only 5 shows.

-Lou- Yeah, in-between Christmas and new year.

-Speak For Yourself- when is that Bridge 9 EP coming out?

-Armand- February I think

-Lou- GOD KNOWS

-Speak For Yourself- how come they pushed it back so far?

-Armand- well here's the deal... Bridge 9 tried to put all 3 of those singles (GUTG, SOIA, F-MINUS) out through a different distributor, meanwhile they were...

-Armand- ...Contractually obligated with another distributor still, for another year, all the way through next summer. So, when that distributor got wind of what they were trying to do, everything got botched and they held them to the contract and told them they can't release the single through the new distributor and therefore all of the labels. Our label, Give Up the Ghost's label, and F-Minus' label got pissed off. They were all like "These were supposed to be pre-album hype-building things, and now they're conflicting with the sales of the album, therefore you have to wait 6 months after the release."

-Lou- basically, the whole plan was that like, to get the new generation of hardcore kids... who might have heard of Sick Of It All, but for some reason the new generation of hardcore kids are more loyal to labels than they are to bands. Ya know, they'll buy anything that comes out on Bridge 9, or Trustkill, or Victory... but wont touch something off of FAT WreckChords because they think its pop-punk, even though we're not. Ya know it was to hear, yes this is Sick Of It All, ya see, its not the rumors ya know, people all like 'ohhhh, they're pop-punk', NO this is Sick Of It All! But, of course, it fell through; ya know... that's pretty much the story of our lives.

-Armand- yeah, actually, we've been having some pretty bad luck, so that's just first little strike of bad luck...

-Lou- yeah, we made one of the best albums of our career, and its just fuckin' road block after road block comin' up... bad luck, then there is another one...

-Speak For Yourself- okay, I remember when 'the story so far' video came out, you said that Yours Truly was one of the best...

-Lou- Yours Truly is our best in like, we expanded. We did more melody, ya know, we didn't just have 'verse-chorus-verse', we just did songs the way we felt. Like this one, we came in, we're all angry and shit again, so we're just like 'lets just do a straight up Sick Of It All that's heavy, but its not metal!'. Ya know, I've got nothing against the whole new 'met-Armand-Lou-core' wave and all that, the only thing I thinks sad about it is now you see the bands writing songs, and not because "hey, this is gonna get the kids to dance" or "hey, I like to write songs", its because "hey, this will get the majors interested"... and that's fuckin' sad because that has NOTHING to do with this music. Why don't you just say you're not hardcore and move straight onto metal then?

-Speak For Yourself- is that why you guys left the major?

-Lou- nah, we left because they pretty much just botched the "Built To Last" release ya know...

-Armand- they were good in Europe on "Scratch The Surface", they sucked in America. Then, on "Built To Last", they were good in America and sucked in Europe. Dealing with a major, its kinda frustrating, every time you go back to lets say, Germany, its like a whole new staff of people. All the people that you knew from the first time you were there are gone, it's like a revolving door policy they have. Any time you call you never know who you're suppose to even talk to anymore...

-Speak For Yourself- so you guys do all that stuff yourselves?

-Armand- now, yeah we do now...

-Speak For Yourself- really...

-Armand- yep

-Speak For Yourself- just so much trouble dealing with the middle man before, you just do it yourselves now?

-Armand- actually, we did have some pretty bad experiences with management.

-Speak For Yourself- is this guy you were talking about during the show, is that the booking agent?

-Lou- No, he's not ours; he booked this tour. Our booking agent knows there are certain cities that we won't play because we won't do good there.

-Speak For Yourself- what cities are they?

-Lou- Columbia, Missouri.

-Speak For Yourself- Wait, didn't you just play there?

-Both- Yes (in a very upset tone).

-Speak For Yourself- See, we were gonna go, we should have fuckin' went.

-Lou- No, you shouldn't have, because you would have saw the saddest four dogs on stage you ever saw in your life.

-Armand- HORRIBLE, HORRIBLE...

-Lou- They said there were 80 people there, but I counted the front row was about 17 and there was about 8 kids SITTING the whole show, against the soundboard with their arms folded, looking like "uhh, is this gonna be over soon?". And I saw maybe 2 people in the balcony. So I say, maybe, 23 people.

-Speak For Yourself- So what do you think of St. Louis? I mean, I consider these shows pretty weak (the college shows).

-Armand- Ya know, we just want to come back and play a club and not a college.

life on the ropes...



-Lou- Like I said on stage, this was one of the better shows of this tour. The whole thing with Vans, is there is a whole back story of 'why' all the promotion was late. They had promised us big promotion, you're with Vans... every skate shop is supposed to have stuff, every Vans store, and every record shop is supposed to be promoting this for months. NOTHING!!! We got the big goose egg.

-Armand- If we did our own headlining tour, and played all these same cities, not only would we be playing in the right clubs, but we would have had way more awareness about us coming to town. Every place we play on this tour, its been all the people that we know in each town that have told us "wow, if it weren't for talking to you guys, I would have had no idea that you were going to be playing here"

-Speak For Yourself- and you don't think it would have been \$15, do you?

-Armand- annnnnd, it wouldn't have been 15 bucks.

-Speak For Yourself- Because that's a huge reason more hardcore kids weren't here tonight.

-Armand- And we would have had more of a say of who's on tour with us.

-Speak For Yourself- the bands you're touring with are good though, right?

-Armand- yeah, yeah you know, Western Waste, the Unseen...

-Lou- I mean, we would generally mix it like, if the Unseen would go out with us, it would be like "hell yeah, we have The Unseen". But we'd have another hardcore, totally hardcore band. I mean, we agreed to do this tour because we had a full European tour booked, and I mean, Europe to us is "home." Its gold. We go there, we do great, they buy our record, they don't care if we're on MTV or not, they love us. They understand us. So, we postponed that because they said, "You're gonna go on tour with, the Vans tour, with Poison The Well" and we were like "great, a young up and coming metal-core band and all these kids that like 'let them see us play'". We could maybe get some fans and show them that we're good blah blah blah. So we sign up, we're ready to go on tour, first thing we hear a week later, "hey Poison The Well is not doing it... but we've got Avenged Sevenfold" and im like "WHO THE FUCK ARE THEY? I don't know."

-Speak For Yourself- Aren't they similar musically? Well... Motley Crue with crying...

-Speak For Yourself- But, You're friends with AFI right?

-Armand- For a long time.

-Speak For Yourself- I know at Krazyfest I was Moshing to your set right next to Davey Havok..

-Armand- Haha, that was a few years ago...

-Speak For Yourself- you guys did go on tour with them recently, or a few years ago, right?

-Lou- '99, we were here. We did The Galaxy, it was us, AFI, Hot Water Music, and Indecision.

-Speak For Yourself- How many more dates do you have left on the tour?



FINGER POINT COUNT : THREE.

Both- Three!

-Lou- Yeah, thank God we only have three more after this. Detroit...

-Armand- TOLEDO, we're going to Toledo!

-Lou- Another city we said we'd never go back to.

-Speak For Yourself- so why not Cleveland, Cincy...

-Armand- yeah Cleveland, fine..

-Lou- Cleveland, even Columbus would be fine....

-Armand- but TOLEDO!!!

-Lou- I mean, there are kids that will come out, but only five of them. They could just drive a couple hours to the other city, ya know?

-Armand- Like one hour to Detroit, well, not even. Like 45 minutes. And that's what they usually do, but for some reason we're back in Toledo even though when we played there with the Suicide Machines and The Distillers...

-Lou- And Shai Halud...

-Armand- there was about maybe 50, 60 people there. And now we're going back with us, The Unseen, and Western Waste.

-Lou- I'll tell ya, have you guys ever heard of Western Waste?

-Speak For Yourself- NEVER. I mean they seem like alright dudes, I guess they were okay, but...

-Lou- The band's alright, but nobody knows them. Why not have another band that draws around the country? Even if they draw a fucking hundred kids on their own. These are bands that have NO fans anywhere. It's good for them because they're getting to have fans, but like Armand said, if this was our own tour, there'd be another, more prominent hardcore band on the bill.

-Speak For Yourself- What are your favorite, newer hardcore bands right now?

-Lou- New?

-Speak For Yourself- Well I guess you can count Madball since they've gotten back together and all.

-Lou- I'd like to hear the new Madball record. They're one of my favorite bands. I want to hear the whole record and I hope they hold it together. They're one of them most brutal live acts you'll ever see.

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah, we saw them recently on that tour [Rise of Brutality]. Their tour manager punched out the sound guy... they all ran off stage in mid-song.

-Lou- Ohhhh I heard about that show.

-Armand- You guys were at that show?

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah dude, you guys heard about that shit? Crowd getting maced or whatever during Hatebreed later on.

-Lou- Wow, that's a shame. See, that's one of the things that's always held them back. They gotta fuckin' calm down. I mean, you wanna play music or...

-Armand- Terror!

-Lou- Terror? Yeah, and the new Most Precious Blood, "Our Lady Of Annihilation" is amazing.

-Speak For Yourself- What do you guys think of Rob, they guy from One King Down?

-Armand- I thought he was really good.

-Lou- When he first got in the band I saw them, he fucked up a couple of songs. I was like "ah, whatever, he's new." Then recently, I saw them at CBGB's and they were great! Great, I think he has a good voice.

-Lou- See, man, whenever somebody asks me a question like this, there's so many bands that I love, like I still think AVAIL is great, I don't see why more people don't love AVAIL.

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah dude, the "punk rock Grateful Dead." They tour forever. Okay, so what about fests? Festivals seem to be this huge trend in hardcore.

-Lou- You know what stinks? We never really get asked to do any of these. Well, we did Krazyfest was the only thing, we've done that twice and we did that Furnace Fest. What a fiasco that was.

-Speak For Yourself- yeah, in Alabama.

-Armand- The Christian kids went runnin'

-Lou- The Christian kids just like walked out when we played. They all stood in the back. It's not like we're up here going "Hail Satan!" [They're] Assholes! We're up here giving a positive message we just don't say "The Lord told me to give you this message."

-Speak For Yourself- Was that this summer or the year before?

-Lou- Yeah, it's on the DVD.

-Speak For Yourself- I don't have that yet.

-Lou- Don't even waste your money.

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah, right on.



-Lou- I mean, from our standpoint, the show was kinda weak for us. I mean, the kids were goin' off, the ones that were there to see us. It was just weird.

-Armand- Thing is, these bands would just come out that they had people that would know that they were Christian. All of a sudden the entire place would fill up. You know what it was, it was like religious discrimination.

-Lou- yeah, I like Stretch Armstrong too. Hate their fans, love the music.

-Speak For Yourself- Me too actually.

-Lou- What I want to know is why, all of a sudden... I guess it's just because it goes with, I used to think that the punk and the hardcore scenes were just immune to what was going on in the trends in the outside world. But, see on the outside world how that whole trend came in and like fuckin' Slipknot and bands with costumes and an image and blah blah blah and now that's kinda fading in the mainstream. Now in the underground it's like if you don't have fuckin' black nail polish you're nothing.



"FAKIN' THE PUNK"

And if you don't have the right fucking size mohawk people walk out on you, ya know? And it's sad. They guys in Unseen told us that there were two shows on this tour that they didn't put their mohawks up, you know, just went on with their hair slicked back, and it was the weakest reaction they ever got. Next night, they put their mohawks up, and the place went crazy. It's sad, fucking sad that that is the underground now. It's supposed to be, ya know, against the outside not like "well im gonna conform cuz I'm only gonna like bands that look like me or wear clothes that I can imitate". I mean we're pretty imitated ya know, we look like gas station attendants. (Everyone laughs).

-Speak For Yourself- So you think its a dark time for hardcore? Or, what was the darkest time for your band? Where you thought you might break up...

-Armand- It was this tour! really...

-Lou- When we hit Salt Lake City I just cracked, I was like "I just wanna go home"

-Speak For Yourself- laughs, kids with razor blades...

-Lou- No, we went to Salt Lake City and we've been having great shows. Even through that whole straight edge... and that's the one thing we brought up... we get there, we found out a few days ahead of time the club we were booked in just decides that they're only 18 and over club now. So, the local hardcore kids who love us come out and protest the show.

-Armand- Picket lines! Actual picket lines...!

-Lou- Booing and yelling at people going in to see us.

-Speak For Yourself- Oh my God...

-Lou- ...and they're [the band] going "I can't take this anymore! (Armand cracks up) 17 years of being in a band. I'm not asking to be put up on a pedestal or anything but, have a little fucking respect!" And Craig and I, we went to the line and talked to kids, they're like "we're not against you guys, we love Sick Of It All", Craig goes "yeah, you better not be, 'cause when every band was afraid to tour through Salt Lake City because of the 'straight edge gang' and the 'killings'; who was there? Sick Of It All was!" When bands would fucking avoid that place like the plague; who went there? Sick Of It All did! And now they're protesting. We didn't even book the fucking show.

-Speak For Yourself- So no more playing Salt Lake?

Both- No, we will, we will.

-Armand- but a different club.

-Lou- Again, our booking agent did not book this tour.

-Armand- Our agent actually lives in Salt Lake. She knows. She knows what to do. The guy who booked this tour lives in Southern California. Has no clue.

-Lou- and is an asshole!

-Speak For Yourself- And what's his name?

-Armand- Denny Lake, Denny Lake.

-Lou- We have not had an apology from Vans for how shitty we were treated on this tour, how shitty the promotion is. Not one fucking called and was like "we're really sorry, we'll make this up to you."

-Armand- No shoes! NO FUCKING SHOES!

-Speak For Yourself- yeah, I saw the Adidas and thought, "wait, where's the Vans?"

(everyone laughs)

-Lou- Oh fuck man, these are Adidas I bought in '95 mother fucker. (more wacky laughter)

-Speak For Yourself- Are you guys ever in contact with your old bass player anymore?

-Armand- Rich?

-Speak For Yourself- yeah...

-Lou- yeah, I see him once in a while.

-Speak For Yourself- is he hanging around...

-Lou- He has a band, you can check it out, Reach 454. Sad thing is everybody hears it thinks its some sub-fucking-Godsmack, it's so lame. He's been doin' that before Godsmack got big, it just took him that long to get signed. I feel so bad for him...

-Speak For Yourself- Would you guys ever consider playing, say, Ozzfest or anything? I know that Hatebreed and Sworn Enemy were on it.

-Armand- Ozzfest would be good for us I think.

-Speak For Yourself- Really?

-Lou- Much better than Warped Tour. Warped Tour is all poppy crap now.

-Armand- I think we would do pretty well on Ozzfest. The only problem is you have to buy your way onto it. Fat Wreck Chords sure isn't gonna...

-Lou- Throw up 30 grand for us to play half a tour...

-Armand- Maybe 60 if we do the whole tour.

-Lou- I think it's a discount, if you do the whole tour its 50 grand. (laugh laugh laugh) I mean who's gonna pay for all that fucking shit that Kelly and her mom keep going out and buying I mean...

-Speak For Yourself- You guys are paying for Kelly Osbourne's coke



if you go Ozzfest.

-Armand- EXACTLY!

-Lou- I wish we were paying for fucking Jack's diet, 'cause (... something about 'that fat mother fucker' that can't be heard above the laughing). Don't show them that because then we'll never get on.

-Speak For Yourself- yeah, I'll cut that out.

-Lou- (leans close to the recorder) Fat shit! Fat little shit that he is.

-Speak For Yourself- Okay, I hate to ask the obligatory questions but...

-Lou- "My favorite color is blue!"

-Lou- "If you had a fanzine what would you call it?"

-Speak For Yourself- I know, I hate asking these fucking questions, but for Johnny X, the XX-year old straight edger that was up front tonight. So, you guys don't have to call yourselves that, but you don't do drugs or...
-Lou- We were never straight edge. Pete and I just never did anything. I was like that before straight edge even got huge. I drank all through like the age of 14 to 21. When it got legal I just wasn't into it anymore. The whole thing about straight edge is, what we got out of Minor Threat, which I think is more close to what he meant was: Moderation. You listen to the actual words, he talks about: Moderation. Not taking things to the extreme, and then Youth Of Today and them just twisted it all around. The point of it is, we've talked to so many people, even then and now its all comin' out, we have friends all over the country that are like "yeah, I remember Ray, he was on tour, Youth Of Today came here and he tried Peyote!". (laugh madness mothafucka). I mean, look at Craig for Godsakes. Craig was a total pothead his whole teenage life, got into Youth Of Today, was straight edge for about a year and a half, got out, now he's back to the biggest pothead I know.

-Armand- and he "corrupts me..."

-Lou- [Craig]: "Smoke this good shit, it's California stuff! Its great"

-Speak For Yourself- Now what's your relationship like with Fat Records? I know they're pretty supportive from what I can tell.

-Lou- Yeah, actually, they are. There's some great people there. Brian and Vanessa...

-Armand- The only problem with Fat is the way they're viewed by the public.

-Speak For Yourself- As a pop-punk label?

-Armand- Yeah, they just think that Fat equals pop-punk and that hurts us ya know, because if they didn't really have that image, then maybe we could just develop without worrying about that. Ya know, it just seems to hurt us every once in a while

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah, I noticed the website's all pink and blue colored, then your page is black with the red font, old english...

-Armand- (laughs) yep, the old english letters...

-Speak For Yourself- Okay, I think, holy shit...I guess that's about it...

-Lou- Oh come on! You've got more questions.

-Speak For Yourself- Okay, well, here's a "funny" one about BOLD! What are your top 5 BOLD songs? For your BEST OF BOLD tape!

-Armand- "WISE UP!"

-Lou- He sang on that...

-Armand- I did back ups on it and...

-Lou- he did back ups on it...

Armand- (Tries to say something)

-Lou- (Interrupts, in an annoying high pitched voice) "Too many kids are skwued up!"

-Lou- I like "Crippled Youth", I only liked the demo.

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah, everything from "Crippled Youth" to "Looking Back" is fair game...

-Lou- Yeah, I only liked the "Crippled Youth" demo, I'm too cool for everything else. I never liked BOLD. We used to just joke around like (in aforementioned voice) "Too many kids are skwued up!" Like a fuckin' baby Elmer Fud.

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah, I asked you about the straight edge thing earlier, and it seems like you guys may be beyond all that "petty shit." What hardcore bands or punk bands can you relate to that have been around so long? I guess like Suicidal maybe...

-Lou- See the only thing about Suicidal is, I like Suicidal, but every time I go see them live now I'm really disappointed with that funk shit.

Lou- My girlfriend just looks at me and goes "this is the 'intense Bad Brains'?" And I'm "No, it's not, I think we should leave!" Then we got up and left.



-Armand- Yeah that shit doesn't work. And they just stay at it year after year and its like, "Man didn't you understand the first time around?"

-Lou- They need to just get up there and rip.

-Speak For Yourself- Any friends that have stuck around that still come out to shows, in bands or whatever...

-Lou- Yeah, we've got tons of friends that have stuck around, even here. And then Murphy's Law is still around. That's the sad thing, these bands are so good but because they're older ya know, more kids don't know them, and I don't know why. Live you cannot touch Murphy's Law, even to this day! I mean, there's tons of great bands that are still around. I don't like the whole reunion thing.

-Speak For Yourself- What did you think of that Cro-Mags "reunion thing"?

-Lou- Ahhhh that's just such a fuckin' mish mash of bullshit. Ruins an amazing band.

-Armand- I mean, those guys just don't have good personal relationships with each other and can't make it happen.

-Lou- Even, like now, with the 'Soul Brains' it's like, great music, but HR is not the same man, he's not intense anymore, he's totally beyond, in his mind, he's beyond intentionally going crazy, he's just crazy. Story, we played with them in Washington D.C. at some big festival. How long ago was that? That big festival with Murphys Law and them? 2 years, 3 years ago?

-Armand- 3 years ago.

-Lou- Yeah, we did this big festival down there and my girlfriend was with me. She'd never seen the Bad Brains and I'd tell her stories about the tours we did with them and how they were fucking amazing every night. They come out and I'm all like "HERE THE COME! HERE THEY COME!" and HR comes skipping out grabs the mic stand with a video camera in his hand and just sang holding the video camera, staring at the audience, then filming the band, filming the audience the he'd just be like (in an indescribably feminine voice) "Helleewwww, hew ess everbody".

-Armand- He was literally "CRAZY," completely out of his mind.

-Lou- My girlfriend just looks at me and goes "this is the 'intense Bad Brains'?" And I'm "No, it's not, I think we should leave!" Then we got up and left.

-Armand- He doesn't live in reality anymore.

-Speak For Yourself- Was he wearing the old mans jogging suit when you saw him?

-Lou- No, but I've heard of him coming to shows wearing a...

-Armand- DRESS!

-Lou- He'd come to shows wearing a golden Dashiki and carrying fake birds in a birdcage.

-Armand- Didn't he do that with the P.O.D. record?

-Lou- He sang on that P.O.D record, a song called "Without Jah" or something. It was the only... amazing song on the record. He came into the studio with the birdcage, with fake birds, and had to have it with him when he sang his part.

(insert official "laugh at fucking hardcore icon gone crazy" break here)

-Lou- That's him in a nutshell, and I feel sorry because they wrote some amazing music. They were way before their time. I remember going to see Rage Against The Machine and I ran into this guy outside, an old, old hardcore guy. When I got into this, he was already a veteran guy. And I was just like "what's goin on? What are you doin' here?" and he goes "ahh this girl just wanted to take me to see this band, said I'd like it." Afterwards I saw him and asked how he like it, he said "I like it better when they were called The Bad Brains!" It's the truth, Rage Against The Machine was just the Bad Brains more commercialized. It's a sad thing that the Bad Brains never could have cashed in on that, ya know. I mean, The Beastie Boys tried to take them on tour and HR went crazy. Supposedly, one of the Beastie Boys is doing a record with them, he's producing it for them. But, who knows.

-Speak For Yourself- I know Madonna tried to get them back on tour or whatever and they flaked out in Kansas.

-Lou- Yeah, he hit a guy in the crowd in the head with a mic stand. Put the guy in the hospital and he went to jail for like a week.

-Armand- Recently, the Soul Brains asked us to do some shows with them.

-Speak For Yourself- You turned them down?

-Armand- Yeah.

-Lou- It's just not the same.

-Speak For Yourself- It would just be a joke?

-Armand- You know what people have told us? Promoters of shows told us, "you know what you should do? Break up for like 6 months! And then get back together and do a 'reunion tour'. It would be HUGE!" People tell us this kinda stuff because you see it happen so often in the hardcore scene where bands just take a hiatus and then get back together and call it a "reunion tour".

-Lou- Madball...

-Armand- All of a sudden there's ten times more hype around them while they were just a functioning band.

-Lou- Madball told me when I went to their first reunion show in New Jersey, the place was packed, Hoya goes "it was almost a year to the same month, we played here and there was fuckin' 60 people here, tonight it's sold out. Because we reunited." And he said and the west coast tour went great for them because they were like doing 200 to 300 kids when last time they were doin' 30 kids. WHAT THE FUCK IS THAT? Why can't people appreciate bands that stick it out?

-Armand- That's why Europe is so good for us, because it doesn't really matter if you're reuniting or it's your last tour or anything like that, they just are there to support the band that they like. And that's it, there's no other...

-Lou- "Booshit"

-Armand- Yeah, there's no other bullshit surrounding it.

-Speak For Yourself- I think Youth Of Today a reunion...

-Lou- Yeah, they did some shows with us.

-Speak For Yourself- Oh really? How'd they go?

-Armand- They weren't very good, I was disappointed. I was expecting for them to have rehearsed a little bit more...

-Lou- Come out with total fire full of piss and vinegar.

-Armand- And it wasn't all that.

-Lou- Plus, when they did the reunion they did a few club shows, but a lot of festivals. So, Youth Of Today on a huge stage, with a giant barricade, they haven't played together in how many years...

-Armand- And a lot of people don't really know their songs...

-Lou- Anymore yeah

-Armand- Nowadays that stuff is as old as our first record so it's kinda hard to keep it in people's heads.

-Lou- Especially if you're not touring every year. Or even every few years.

-Speak For Yourself- So, anymore of these 'rap...rock'.. Anymore "Just Look Arounds"?

-Lou- RAP ROCK! That's the future right here!

-Lou- We do a thing called "2 Legit For The Pit" where hardcore bands covering [rap songs]... they approached us, but that kinda stuff, ya know...

-Armand- We did that for the "Loud Rocks" comp.

-Lou- I think we wasted a great song on that, nobody knows about the "Loud Rocks" comp. Go online, download the song, try to find it. What was it called?

-Armand- Uh Uh, "Survival Of The Fittest".

-Lou- Its Mobb Deep and Sick Of It All.

-Speak For Yourself- Yeah I think I have that actually, it's kinda good.

-Armand- Oh, you like that?

-Lou- You know what's weird, we submitted that and everybody's like "ya know, everybody else is doin' this nu-metal rap rock bullshit and you guys give us a fuckin' rock song with a rapper over it, it's beautiful".

And nothing happened

with it. Typical

Sick Of It All story.

-Armand- They

fucked it all, it's

the second-to-

last song on

the album.

-Lou- And

the dude

was talkin'

like when

we submit-

ted it like

"this could be

the videosong,

blah blah blah"

then somebody

else's label's like

"We'll give ou 50

grand if you put our

band as the second song"

so were like "okay, now we're

knocked down another notch" then

more and more and more.

-Speak For Yourself- Are you guys gonna do a video for "Relentless"?

-Lou- "Relentless" is out...

-Lou- Mike Pappa animated it.

-Speak For Yourself- I think the last video [he did] reminded me of that Gorillaz video, know what I'm talking about?

-Armand- You know what though? We saw the Gorillaz video after... I was

really bummed out. We were up in Canada doing the Snow Jam tour and

just when they started showing our video on there, they started showing the

Gorillaz video and I was totally lookin' at it like "Man, that totally takes the

wind out of it".

-Lou- Well I wanna do another video, but it costs so much money. We'd like

to do one for "Fakin' The Punk" or "For Now."

-Speak For Yourself- Would you get John Joseph on it ["Fakin' the Punk"]

with ya?

-Lou- Oh hell yeah, he'd love to do it.

-Speak For Yourself- Are you going to be on "Headbangers Ball"?

-Lou- We're gonna do it November 19th

-Lou- I don't know, it will be on the website, all the information. Go to www.

sickofitall.com. Everyone should go to to our messageboard, because 99%

of the people on our messageboard are from fuckin' England. What's the

matter with ya Americans, what? Ya ignorant? Can't use a computer?

DAVE QUIGGLE

ILLUSTRATION

Regardless of your feelings on Christian Hardcore you would have to agree that Dave Quiggle, guitarist for Disciplex A.D., is one heck of an artist. His repertoire includes album covers and layouts for bands such as AllOut War, Figure Four, Sub-Zero, NIV, Shockwave and countless others. He has designed shirts for Hatebreed, Nodes of Ranvier, Evergreen Terrace, and Seventh Star, with a little more style than your average black t-shirt with a splattering of blood. And, of course, he's done great things for D.I.Y. record labels and businesses through the use of amazing corporate logos. And if you're into ink, how about sporting a Dave Quiggle original? DQ has a fair amount of tattoo flash designs - guaranteed not tempt you into laser removal years down the road. But honestly, it doesn't really matter who has commissioned him to do designs, because the quality of his work speaks for itself. And despite all of his talent, he's not your stereotypical, self-centered artist. No, Dave Quiggle is a really nice guy to top it all off. Nice enough, in fact, to humor me for an interview. Being an artist just starting out myself, it's refreshing to know that at least one underground artist is making a name for himself. So for all you other art wannabes out there, here's a little insight from Dave Quiggle. (Interview by Stephanie Richardson)

SFY Fanzine: How old were you when you got into art?

DQ: I've always been into art. I can't think of a time when I decided that I would pursue it. My parents both had artistic talent and they were always encouraging me and made me feel that art was 'my thing'. So I just adopted that attitude all though growing up.

SFY Fanzine: When did you get into hardcore or underground music in general?

DQ: I got into hardcore 10 or so years ago. Erie had a small but tight hardcore scene built around it's favorite hxc band Sumpthin To Prove. In 1995 my brother and I started xDisciplex A.D. and have been doing that ever since.

SFY Fanzine: Who/What are some of your artistic influences?

DQ: Mucha has always been a favorite of mine from the Art Nouveau period. Plus I really love the traditional tattoo work of Sailor Jerry and the rest of the "old masters."

SFY Fanzine: Who are some of your favorite artists?

DQ: I really like Mark Ryden. Camilla Rose Garcia is also a favorite. These are the artists who make me feel insignificant. I like that. It makes me hungry and want to work harder.

SFY Fanzine: Are you self-taught or do you have an art education?

DQ: A mixture of both. I have a bachelor's art degree in applied media arts. But I have to say that 85-90% of what I have learned has come from experimentation and just doing it myself. School is great for giving you the time and resources to practice and work on yourself as an artist. However, I don't feel that it directly taught me too much.

SFY Fanzine: What are your favorite mediums to work in?

DQ: I use mostly acrylic and watercolor. I also do a lot of ink line drawings that I then color using a computer. Sometimes I use the computer only to do color studies. Then I do the real thing in real paint.

SFY Fanzine: When did you start doing album art for bands?

DQ: I started with my own band. I did my band's t-shirts and record covers. Eventually I did something decent enough that someone else from another band wanted me to do their stuff too. Things just snowballed from there.

SFY Fanzine: How would you describe your artwork?

DQ: I would say that it's sometimes bright and bold like a comic book. Sometimes dark and bold like Eastern Christian Orthodox Iconography. And often a mixture of both.

SFY Fanzine: Have you shown your artwork anywhere?

DQ: Besides my website, no. I'm working towards doing a gallery show here in my hometown of Erie, PA. I don't know when that will happen exactly but it's a definite goal of mine to do that and within the next six months. Maybe late winter or early spring.

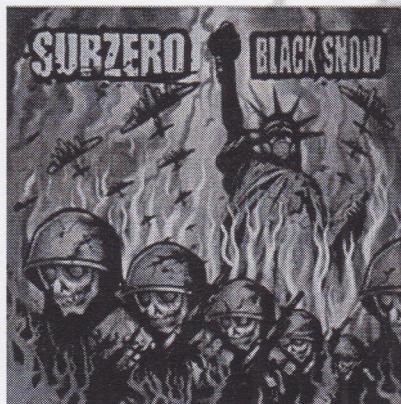
SFY Fanzine: Do you have any advice for young underground artists?

DQ: I don't know. I'm in need of advice myself. But I guess I would say to just keep doing stuff that makes you happy first.

-Check out Dave's work or tell him how cool he is at:

www.davequiggle.com

-E-mail the Underground art magazine "Juxtapoz" and tell them just how much Dave rules. www.juxtapoz.com



SUBZERO
ALBUM
COVER



HATEBREED
T-SHIRT
DESIGN

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Adam the Devastator has a heart to heart with some pissed off dudes from L.A. Read on, prepare to room mosh.

SFY Fanzine: Thanks for taking the time for this interview and let's start with getting to know the band. Tell me who does what and what bands are you guys are from, etc.

I sing, I used to play guitar for Carry On and Stand Your Ground and now also play guitar in Piece by Piece. Shaun plays drums and also drums for Piece by Piece. Dennis play bass and guitars for In Your Face and X-Up. Jon Westbrook plays guitar also sings for Knife Fight and played guitar in No Reply and Lifes Halt.

SFY Fanzine: Do you think your fans have high-

Basically, have kids been going off at your shows?

Yeah the response we have been getting is awesome. It was a little slow in L.A. at the beginning, but that's no big deal because we were new and that's expected...but shows are good. Posi Numbers was the turning point it seemed. Our set was insane, kids went fucking nuts for us and when we came home from that tour, shows just got better and better. The COC tour was awesome, no fuckin complaints. We toured with great bands like Stand & Fight, Blacklisted, and Drug Test--all with awesome reactions. Richmond (VA), Maine and

Boston were so fucking good. I just hope people stay interested.

Maine was fun on both tours. The first tour was really small so not too many highlights as far as shows go-- other than Posi Numbers-- but Outbreak and Miracle Mile were awesome every night. Philly was good. Long Island and Albany were awesome as well.

SFY Fanzine: So us kids in St. Louis can do thier homework, What covers do you guys play live? I remember you playing the Alone In A Crowd cover at Posi Numbers, the one you recorded for the demo.

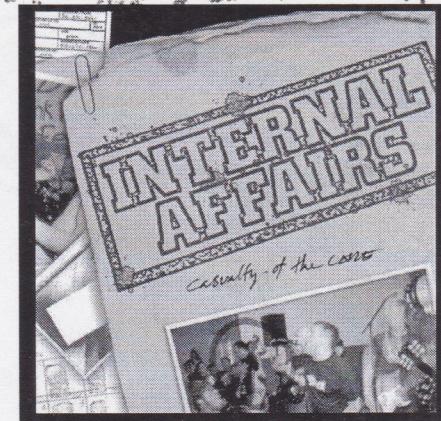
We have also cover "In My Way" by Judge. We have ideas of other songs to cover but those are top secret. I mean bands I would like to cover if we decide to do more covers would be Negative Approach, Infest, or Killing Time (*They should do "Wall of Hate"* -ed.). The songs we would cover are songs everyone should know.

SFY Fanzine: What are some of your all-time favorite bands, and what are some of the newer bands that you enjoy?

Youth of Today, Madball, Negative Approach, Infest, GB, Death Threat, OLC, Strife, IME, SOIA, AIAC, and the list goes on.

Newer bands that I love are Champion, Desperate Measures, Mental, Knife Fight, Vendetta, Donny Brook, Down To Nothing, Drug Test, Our Turn, Lights Out, Allegiance, Blacklisted, the Distance, Outbreak...

SFY Fanzine: Posi Numbers was a great time. I saw some of my favorite bands, and discovered



many more that rule. What are some of the bands you like playing with and watching at Posi Numbers?

Terror! Fuck, I get to see that band all the time but can't get enough.

SFY Fanzine: Malfunction Records put out your guys' lastest jams on a 7" called "Casulty of the Core." How has it been working with them so far?

Fucking amazing. Tru and Linas bust their asses for us. We couldn't ask for anything else. They have been pushing our shit like crazy and we are in the second press and we never thought kids would get into our shit like this. I'm stoked to be doing business with friends and have it work out so smoothly.

SFY Fanzine: How serious is this band? Have you guys talked about what the future holds for you guys?

We are serious, but as of now we all have real jobs so its hard to think about touring full time. We have discussed quitting to be a full-time band, but we want to get some more exposure before we sacrifice our careers.

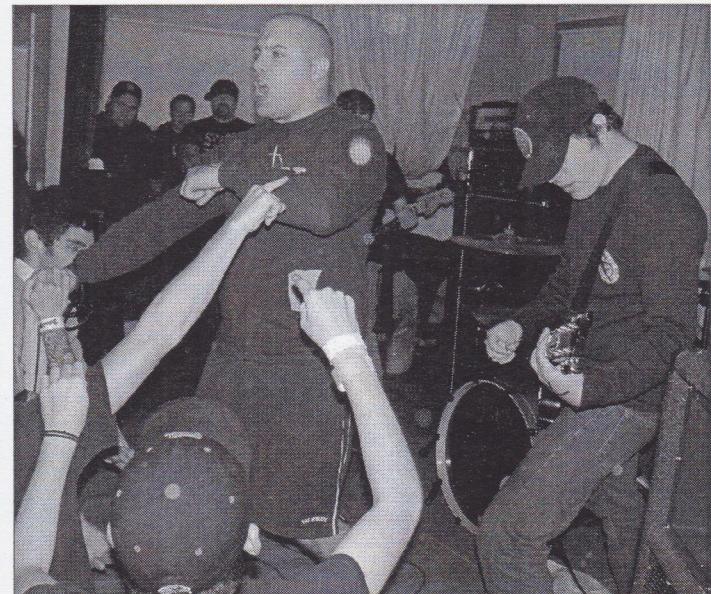
We want to tour everywhere and say we did everything we could have with this band.

SFY Fanzine: Now that Saddam is captured, do you have any choice words you wouldlike to say to him? I wonder if the C.I.A. is going to play Morrissey records to make him talk?

That would be funny shit because I know that would be torture to me. I would just want to shoot him or punch him in the face a bunch. He's a bitch and should die for the way he treated his people.

SFY Fanzine: This is when you give your shoot outs.

Fuck, I think I dropped enough names through out this interview. Pick up our record from Malfunction Records and check out our site: www.internalxaffairs.com



er expectations since you guys have ex-members from your other bands? I enjoyed Carry On very much and that is why I definitely checked you guys out.

I hope not, I hate the ex-members bullshit. New bands, new material. I guess if a previous band was really good, you would expect the new band to sound good, but everyone deserves a chance without fitting their previous image and sound. I never wrote a song for Carry On, but I write everything for this band, it would be lame to compare us to C.O. since the material comes from different people. I just think peoples expectations on HC is too high these days anyways, every band is expected to have a professional recording on their demo. People need to chill out and not compare everything and just give bands a chance.

SFY Fanzine: With the release of your demo early this year and the EP "Casulty of the Core" recently, you guys have been playing a lot on the west coast and have done a few tours in the east in support of these efforts.

SFY: First off, please state your name and what you do in the band 'Cut The Shit'

Andrew: Andrew, I sing.
SFY: Starting off with a generic, boring question... how did Cut the Shit come about?

Andrew: Ok, CTS started out almost two years ago, shortly after Paul moved to Boston for school. He had been good friends with Tom prior to his move, so he suggested playing to both he and I, and Erick and I had been discussing starting a band...so we all got together and started banging out some songs.

SFY: My next question kind of relates to that. How did you guys find the time to do this? Especially since Paul was in two other serious bands and Tom was in Cops and Robbers?

Andrew: Part of why we started playing was that Paul had quit Tear It Up when he moved up here, because he was starting school full-time and it would have been too much of a commitment to commute to practice and all their shows. Also, The Rites were really only playing once a month. Cops and Robbers had stopped playing, so Tom didn't have much going on, and my band didn't take up too much time... Basically, we had too much time on our hands and were bored out of our minds.

SFY: What is the situation with you and Bones Brigade, and why did it happen? People were saying all sorts of things like how you "went crazy."

Andrew: As far as me being kicked out for being crazy... I definitely wasn't kicked out, but I wouldn't be surprised if they all said I was crazy after our tour. I was pretty stressed out by the end up of our tour--mostly because I knew I didn't want to do the band anymore,

CUT THE SHIT

Boston's thrashinest hardcore punk rockers
interview by andrew diaz



but didn't want to bum them out--and I ended up taking it out on them. It sucked, and I'm not happy about it, but it happened.

SFY: A lot of people in St. Louis probably don't know, but there was a lot of bullshit surrounding one of your early demo cover art releases. Explain what happened with that situation and what became of it.

Andrew: Oh, there wasn't really a controversy over it, but when we released our demo we were concerned that someone might notice that we stole our artwork from Thrasher. Paul found a ridiculous picture of Corey Duffel with a toilet seat around his neck and flipping off the camera. After the fact, I found out he made some racial slur in an interview and we were all pretty bummed...but by that point our demo was out of print and we escaped without any major shit.

SFY: Oh, I thought it got more out of hand then it did.

Andrew: Nah you might be thinking of The Prowl, who we went on tour with.

SFY: what happened with them?

Andrew: They had artwork on their 7" that some people found offensive toward women. We were on tour with them last winter and in Richmond [Virginia] someone slashed our tire and littered our van with strips of paper that said things like: 'girls are not fuck toys,' and 'macho pricks out of hardcore.' It was pretty unfortunate. It wasn't a huge deal for us; we had a spare and the rental company

didn't charge us for it. It just didn't resolve anything. We've spoken to people from Richmond since then and supposedly the people that did it were at the show, and they didn't bother to even ask The Prowl about it. There was no attempt to clarify anything, just to somehow get even.

SFY: What was the cover art?

Andrew: It was based around an old horror movie, 'Maniac.' It depicted a women screaming and some shadowy figure holding a knife. It was one of those things where I could see both sides of the issue, I just really wish there was some attempt to come to an understanding instead of just holding a grudge.

SFY: I agree. It would have been better to of reached some sort of understanding.

Andrew: Yeah, oh well. It's in the past.

SFY: Alrighty, next question...being a notable edgeman, what's your view on sex and the edge?

Andrew: Let me consult the rule book... In all seriousness... I think it depends on the circumstance. Sex can be a great way to express love for someone, and it can be a way to manipulate and control someone. I think it's a fucked up thing to use someone's body as a commodity. But that doesn't automatically mean all sex is a bad thing. For anyone who isn't satisfied with that answer, ask Ian Mackaye...he'll tell you pretty much the same thing.

SFY: Agreed. that seems to be the most popular awnser (i stole that question from my friends interview with Any Last Words)

Andrew: I'm curious, did they say pretty much the same thing?

SFY: Chad's awnser: "personally? I chose not to have casual sex. In general? I don't think it's a big deal, unless it comes to rule a person's life, or they are hurting/manipulating others to get sex."

Andrew: Cool, Chad rules.

SFY: Indeed! Alright, next question's a silly one, so uh, don't get offended!

Andrew: Ha ha, ok.

SFY: Why you shave your arms?! Huh Andrew? You some kinda girly man, or you trying out for the swim team???

Andrew: Hahahaha! For the record...I shave my legs too!

SFY: Hahaha, oh man, next time you are in town, it is SO 'clobberin' time!'

Andrew: it just looks and feels better man. i have no shame in it at all. Alright, we'll do battle over it.

SFY: oh we will...How was the summer tour with the Rites, and what were some of the highlights? How did you like playing St. Louis the three times you played here (twice with CTS, once with the Bones Brigade)?

Andrew: Tour this summer was great. We all felt really fortunate because we got to play on amazing shows in almost every city we stopped in and had a way better reaction than we ever anticipated--considering both bands had only released a 7" each prior to that. We all got along really well and met tons of new, great kids.

One of the highlights was definitely playing at the City Museum in St. Louis! That place was insane: indoor skatepark, tunnels and slides all over the place, movie theatre, and formal dinner party downstairs with a punk show upstairs. St Louis is alright by me.

CUT THE SHIT! CUT THE SHIT!
CUT THE SHIT! CUT THE SHIT!
CUT THE SHIT! CUT THE SHIT!

People there are all incredibly nice, we played with great bands each time, and the dinopizza or pizzasaurus or whatever you guys call three square feet of pizza, rules! [For the record, it's called "The Pointersaurus"] At least i'd imagine it would since Paul and I have always had to split smaller cheeseless pizzas.

SFY: That pizzasaurus does indeed rule any other towns pizza. What's a good tour story you went through this past summer?

Andrew: Everything that happened on tour was incredible. We had a bird the flew head first into the grill of our van and got stuck there. I gave myself a black eye in St. Louis. When we played in Nashville kids were circle pitting on skateboards which was by far the highest honor we have ever received.

SFY: That's awesome! How'd you give yourself a black eye in St. Louis?

Andrew: Some kids wanted us to play get rowdy after our set was done, and I said I would only if they punched me in the face, and no one did so I just clocked myself real hard and my whole face swelled up immediately and I had a black eye about 5minutes later. It lasted the rest of the tour, so I looked like a super asshole everywhere we went after that.

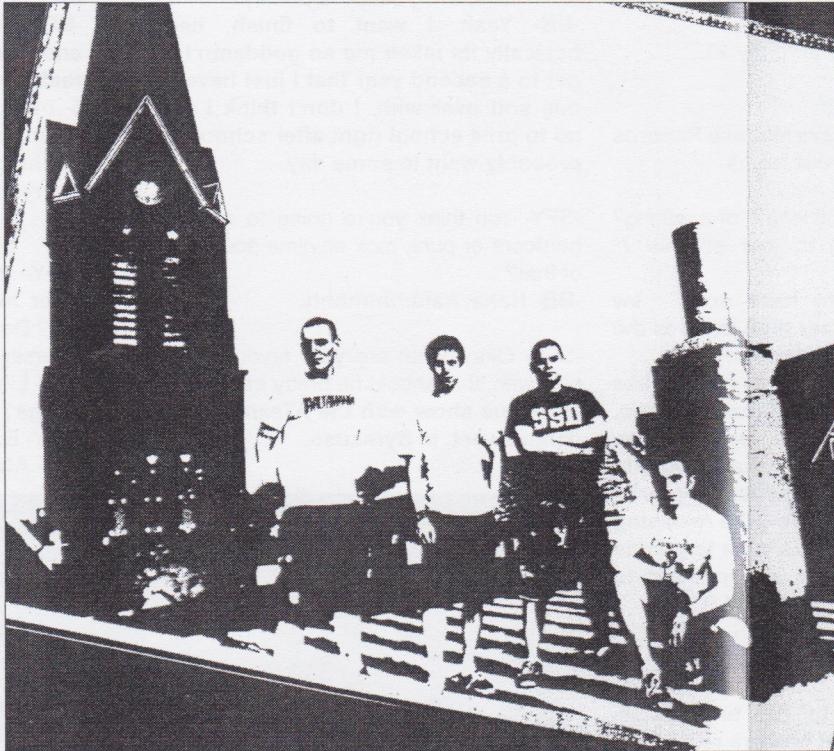
SFY: What was the idea behind the "Harmed and Dangerous" cover art?

Andrew: Paul could probably answer that one a little better than I could, but since he isn't here... I think the artwork does a good job of conveying the feelings behind the song, just a lot of alienation and hurt, and it looks pretty slick.

SFY: Yes, and that kinda ties in to my next questions. On "I Hate Fashion," you seem to be pretty angry with anything having to do with fashion. Are the more fashionable kids in Boston a burden or is it just a lash out at the fashion industry as a whole?

Andrew: Yeah, it's not that I hate all fashion. I mean anyone who gets up and puts on clothes in the morning is some what a fashion victim, and I have a back patch on my jacket and, it's more just I hate how some people's lives are dictated by fashion; being hip and consuming, always having more

"Some kids wanted us to play get rowdy after our set was done, and I said I would only if they punched me in the face, and no one did so I just clocked myself real hard and my whole face swelled up immediately."



Check out CUT THE SHIT's EP, "Bored to Death," and their recently released LP, "Harmed and Dangerous," Both out on Gloom Records. A one-sided 7" is out now as well.

and looking the absolute best. It's fucking shallow and usually just covering up for something the person feels they're lacking.

SFY: I see. Is there a lot of that in Boston?

Andrew: Yeah, Boston seems to have a lot of that. It's always been a big college town, so there are lots of kids living off mom and dad who can afford to throw their money away on things like that. Within the past few years it's gained a reputation for having a big mod and then danceclub scene, so there has been a big influx of white belts and black hair. But i guess that's everywhere now, so who knows.

SFY: Oh geez, we have that too, just not in hardcore really.

Andrew: Yeah, most of those kids don't really come to shows in Boston either-- with a few exceptions. I mean, I think that look is pretty lame, but it's no lamer than half the trends that hardcore kids subscribe to.

SFY: Gotcha! How divided are the kids in Boston? You seem to write a lot of songs about people in their own cliques acting like assholes to everyone else. Is that common in Boston?

Andrew: Yeah, I mean I think it's common to a lot of places; at least larger cities where there are enough people so that kids can afford to hang out exclusively-- they can find some like minded group of friends and never accept anyone outside of that or challenge their thinking.

SFY: On take the pain away, that's probably the most personal CTS song. Was it hard for you to write something that personal, and was it influenced by a certain situation, or something in general?

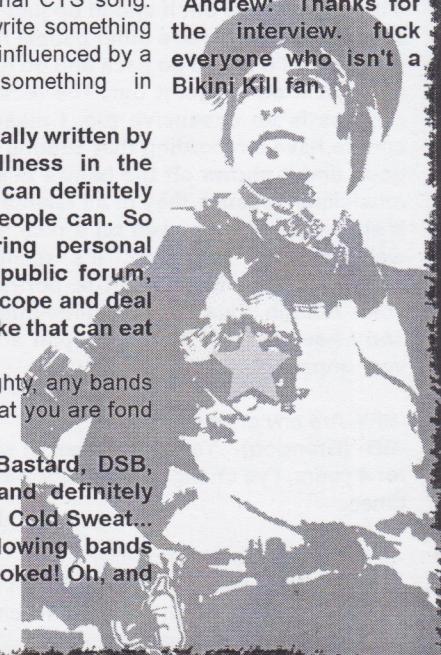
Andrew: That was actually written by Paul about terminal illness in the family. It's something I can definitely relate to and a lot of people can. So yeah, it's hard to bring personal things like that into a public forum, but that's also a way to cope and deal with it. Otherwise shit like that can eat away at you.

SFY: Yes they can. Alrighty, any bands we should look out for, that you are fond of at the moment?

Andrew: Bikini Kill, Bastard, DSB, later era Black Flag, and definitely check out Out Cold and Cold Sweat... Two seriously mind-blowing bands that seem to get over looked! Oh, and Bikini Kill.

SFY: Great, i think we have enough here. Thanks for going along with this, this was my first interview, sooo I hope it's not too bad! Any last shout outs, thank yous, f you's, anything like that?

Andrew: Thanks for the interview. fuck everyone who isn't a Bikini Kill fan.



BAD BUSINESS

-SFY- How old are you guys? I mean, there was a beard in the 7" and I figured you had to be 30.

--BB- (Shawn)-oldest is actually 23.

SFY: Who put out the 7"?

-BB- Our friend with Grave Mistake Records out of Annapolis put it out for us.

-SFY- Plan on doing a full length or anything? Or are you just going to tour off this 7" forever?

-BB- Nah, we hope to have some new songs written by summer then there is the possibility we'll record something new

-BB- I want to do tapes. That is how I'd like to release stuff, it's easier, more effective. We can do it ourselves and deal with less middle-man bullshit. And what interests me is the process, like how fast we write songs compared to how slow the releasing process is. It should be available to people as soon as its recorded as opposed to saving up 12 or 14 songs for an LP.

-SFY- So we shouldn't expect a mammoth 17 song LP from you guys?

-BB- HA, nah, see, an LP has to be good. And a lot aren't and that bothers me.

-SFY- You don't think you could write a good LP?

-BB- Really, I think we could, but its not a goal of mine.

-SFY- What are some band goals then?

-BB- Playing shows, having fun, that's is the number one priority. I hate recording. That is why I'd like tapes. Just go in DIY, and do everything ourselves. I mean, we started with 4 track stuff but it ended up just being so much easier to have other people record it, but now I'd like to go back and do it more raw, get it done -get it out. The recording process is so expensive too, I mean, it's cool to have a recording that sounds really good and it shows off the band's talent as musicians because they're all talented and it shows it off really well on a nice, clean, well-produced recording. It's really not necessarily the way I want to portray my voice though. Plus its pretty time-intensive and I have a short attention span and I'm very impatient.

-SFY- Are any of you in school?

-BB- (Brandon)- Yeah, I've been in school for 4 years, I've changed my major a couple times.

-SFY- So are you all in college?

-BB- Yeah, well, Shawn doesn't go anymore, but we all go to the Rochester [NY] Institute Of Technology.

-SFY- Is finishing school a priority?

-BB- Yeah, I want to finish, because basically its taken me so goddamn long to get to a second year that I just have to get this shit over with. I don't think I want to go to grad school right after school, but I'll probably want to some day.

-SFY- You think you're going to grow out of hardcore or punk rock anytime soon because of that?

-BB- Haha, nahhhhhhhh.

-SFY- Okay, what are your favorite bands to play with, that should be pretty easy.

-BB- One show with the ATeam was pretty damn sweet, in Syracuse.

This interview was done with Shawn (vocals) and Brandon (bass) after BB's first show in STL on Nov. 25, 2003.

Interview done by Nick Maxey and Nick217

-SFY- So you don't have a job and live on your own, how do you make rent and shit?

-BB- Well I do like 4 days of work a month and that gives me enough for rent. I live really sparsely, in a warehouse. With like 6 other people. Its a good atmosphere, so many people are really motivated and pushing what they're doing really far. Everyone is so supportive of everyone else too.

-SFY- So besides music... punk rock, what other mediums, like your drawings, do you like? Do you think there is a need for more of a diversity of means of expression?

-BB- Like more people doing more different things?

-SFY- Exactly.

-BB- Absolutely.



Above: Lots of people with sleeveless shirts. Circle pit during BB in November 2003.
Photo by Meghan Vanigher.

-SFY- That is you're home turf though pretty much isn't it?

-BB- (Shawn)- Well, its probably about our range. I'd say its second to Rochester. We loved playing with Outbreak, Bane, and American Nightmare too. Bane are really awesome kids, its a band that has really meant a lot to me.

-SFY- How about AN?

-BB- I think they're awesome dudes they made, and are making. I like their ideas and what they think about it.

-SFY- You made the merch your self right? What was the idea behind that? Just to make them cheap and sell them cheap?

-BB- (Brandon)- Well we've all taken screen-printing class

-(Shawn)- And I make drawings. That is how I'm trying to make my living now that I'm not in school. I went to school for photography and philosophy and now that I'm out I live in Providence and make drawings. Don't really have a job.

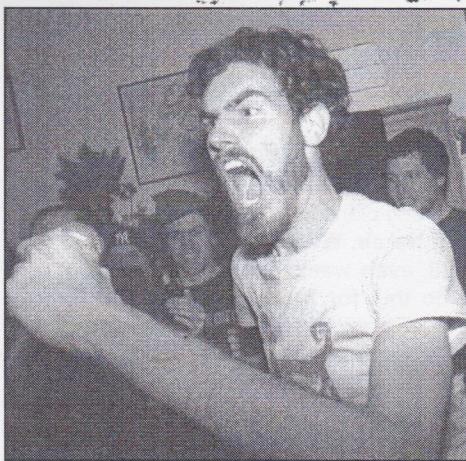
-(Brandon)- I just think its cool when you have control of everything. When everything you do is your expressions of what you do and know. I am a fine arts furniture design major, so everything I'm doing with school is art-based now. I consider Bad Business to be an extension of that really.

-(Shawn)- Like when I see people putting out zines or like the shirts or drawings I make, that don't really coincide with the typical hardcore kid's aesthetic, but that is not really a concern of mine. I'll still take them to shows and try and share with people what I do. Some people appreciate it, some people don't.

-(Brandon)- there is so much one person can do

-(Shawn)- that is my thing, I went to school for photography, but then that wasn't enough. It wasn't saying what I wanted to say now I take photographs, but I'm working on writing a *puppet show*. And...

-SFY- Puppet show? Lets talk about that, you can't bring up a puppet show and just move on



taken from 7" collage

to something else. Lets hear it, story line?

-BB- (Shawn)- I'm working on a puppet show right now but, you can take a look at my drawing, and I feel like I'm losing my mind. I draw a lot of animals. A lot of animals. I mean, I'm not really into a narrative structure, like comics, really. My drawings are more like moments-between-animals-and-events-that-lead-up-to-them-and-happen-after-them are left to interpretation. So I am trying to turn that into a three-dimensional presentation. I have these characters, a mongoose, a stork, a snake, and a chicken.

-SFY- Do they have names?

-BB- They have names but they don't refer to each other by name. I've never written a lot of dialogue; I do a lot of personal writing. So, I am looking forward to that. So there is going to be dialogue and descriptive text and now I am just trying to figure out how to cut through these barriers I have of things being cliché, because I see things in my mind and consider them as being cliché too fast. I need to cut through that. Like, "So is there going to be interaction between these animals and is there going to be lots of blood?"

-SFY- Have you thought about the logistics? I mean, bloody puppets?

-BB- Oh yeah, "Are there tubes?" I think about it daily, it's worked out. And there will be music too. Once its written and done, I'd like to take it on tour. Like in Providence, there is a community where there will be a fucked up noise band, then an artsy band, a puppet show and then that will be the show for the night. It's awesome, something diverse like that, with the freedom to express yourself how you want to.

-(Brandon)- When I started going to shows you'd have metal, grind, hardcore, and screamo-y bands all playing the same show and it was cool with such a diverse crowd. Now it seems like its not like that anymore in a lot of places. There is a separate hardcore show, the punk show, the metal show and so on. At least in Rochester.

-(Shawn)- We consciously try to play more

diverse shows and encourage more open-mindedness.

-(Brandon)- I mean musically, we're all over the board too when it comes to our tastes.

-(Shawn)- We were going to do a Talking Heads cover on this tour, "Psycho Killer," but our own "hardcore" version. We used to play "Backfire" and "Impact" or something like that, songs we all like. But now, I think we made the decision to not cover hardcore songs anymore. Anyone can do that. We want to use hardcore and fast punk rock as a medium to say what we want to say. When people ask what kind of music we play, I want to sit them at a table and draw a chart and point out everything that is involved. Its not just fast straightforward youth crew hardcore or whatever people have reviewed us as, everything from metal core to '88 style youth crew.

-SFY- What would you review yourselves as then?

BB (Brandon)- One review that I think had a great description said, "an upbeat unique, hardcore band". I like to think we're kinda weird, not real normal. Pissed, but hell, I'll write songs thinking about stoner-rock or something jazzy.

-(Shawn)- Like on this tour I've just been listening to almost all folk.

-SFY- What has everyone been listening to in the van?

-BB- (Brandon)- Today we had a big alt-country driving throug Iowa.

-(Shawn)-Here's the play list: Nirvana-Live, Cat Power, Will Oldham, a thrash tape with Total Fury, The Oath, Tragedy, Tear It Up, Modest Mouse today.

-SFY- How has the first tour been?

-BB- (Brandon)-Totally sweet.

-(Shawn)- Absolutely amazing.

-(Brandon)- We played Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Really small places like that, but kids still had fun and danced and everything.

-(Shawn)- Shows with kids who I don't think had ever seen a hardcore band...

-(Brandon)- At this hall in Michigan, kids said they hadn't had a band like us come through in forever, they have a lot of metal, but not like us. In Wisconsin, they said they'd never had a touring band play their town. Kids were talking to us about farming and stuff. We played a show labeled as "Teen Music Fest," and there were old, gross bastards. The first band was acoustic folky stuff, Dave Matthew's cover. We figured we were going to ruin these kids lives when we played.

-(Shawn)- "Bad Business is going to be the demise of this whole town." I mean some people had their idea of what we sounded like, some thought we were from NYC. All these preconceived notions of us. A Little pop punk trio played, they were really funny. Then we played, and kids went off! We taught them how to circle pit.

-(Shawn)- But those kids were so appreciative. Its such a good feeling to share something with them. There was this girl that said we were going to be the "talk of the high-school." It's unreal. This has been my first band and first tour, and Jeff tried talking us down and making it sound like it wasn't going to go well. But, every show had been amazing.

-SFY- So why were you nervous before the show today?

-BB- (Shawn)- Sometimes my legs shake for what seems like no reason at all and I'll get nervous-shits and for some reason tonight I was so nervous because I thought we were just coming in here and not knowing what all these kids were expecting and what they were going to think, I was really paranoid for some reason tonight.

-(Brandon)- I think we got here kind of tired today, and nobody was really saying much. Other cities we've been awake and talking to people, so I guess we spooked ourselves by seeming anti-social.

-(Shawn)- But as soon as people started making fun of the beard I was all right.

-SFY- Yeah, we tried to market the show as a "beard" show. "Come see the bearded band".

BB -(Brandon)- Showing up with fake beards would have been nice.

-SFY- We had sweet dude mosh!

BB - Haha, yeah, Sweet Dude Mosh, definitely awesome.

-SFY- That is what happens when you say "no sleeves allowed, sunglasses required or you're not coming in." *[A lot of people in the crowd that night were wearing sunglasses and sleeveless shirts as a joke, us included. The band was a little confused. - Nick]*

-BB- (Shawn)- So fun.

-SFY- Okay, any final words?

-BB- (Brandon)- I'd like to tell bands that think they're too good for some towns not to be dumb and go everywhere. Not be jerks about it.... **ESPECIALLY** St. Louis!.

-(Shawn)- I would never pass up a chance to share something I make and care about with anyone. If anyone would give me that 2 minutes, to explain myself, I'd do it. Playing to 10 kids in the middle of nowhere is better than sitting at home or watching stupid TV. And check out Tamiroff. From Rochester, quirky, jazzy post punk. Really young, really talented kids.

-SFY- Oh yeah, what happened to your arm? Because you have my bag of frozen french fries on it right now. (Shawn)- I walked back to the merch table (usually I go outside and vomit) but I was climbing over something and it just started hurting, not sure why.

www.danbress.com/badbusiness

Until the End are a Straight Edge band from South Florida. This interview is done with Dan, the bass player, who also runs Eulogy Records. They play metallic hardcore that is a step above most of their other bands that play this type of music. They don't tour much, so here's a quick interview with Dan, the bass player. Interview by xPaulx.

SFY: Who is in the band and what do you do?

Dan: I'm in the band..and my name is Dan..For the most part, I play the bass...Mean Pete yells...John and Chip occasionally play guitar...and Jason Badguy is helping us out right now on drums.

SFY: How did you decide to make your main objective for the band Straight Edge?

Dan: It just was. We didn't decide..Everyone in the band wanted to be in a band with other sxe guys, and so we just kind of fell into it. Once the releases started coming out and kids knew who we were, some sort of mythology about us started...I would hear these crazy things from kids thinking that we are these full on psycho's who hunt and kill everyone who isn't edge..It's really fucking funny to be honest. We are who we are, and that is all.

SFY: I think it is great that people still feel so strongly about sxe. How long has everyone been sxe?

Dan: We're all between the ages of 21 and 29...and for the most part, all of us have been edge through our adult lives.

SFY: Do you get a hard time since your lyrics are so strong and sometimes violent?

Dan: This band is a release for all of us...This is where we vent our anger, our frustration, and all of our feelings. The lyrics come out so strongly because they are abstracts of our minds. They are no calls for people to go out and beat somebody up. A lot of the songs have roots in frustration, and one of the first and most obvious solutions ends up being violence..and when writing a song, I like to just tell it how I feel it, and not cut it apart..so if I was particularly pissed about something, I won't hold back.

SFY: There seems to be a pretty strong scene in Florida. Are there any new bands that people haven't heard but should be on the look out for?

Dan: Chip is in just about every band down here..He and I actually just started a new band with the drummer from Protagonist. The new band is called Test Press. We'll have some stuff around soon. The best bands down here are: Protagonist, The Weapon, On Our Own, and All Hell Breaks Loose. Those are the bands I'll go out of my way to see.

SFY: Your last album did very well. Is there a new album in the works?

Dan: We are writing everything right now. We have seven to eight songs done, and another two to three will be finished soon. We record in January, so it should be out around March / April. Hot stuff.



SFY: I've noticed that you don't tour a lot. Are there any plans for a tour in the near future?

Dan: No sir. We never planned on touring at all, even weekends. We were just going to do this for fun down here, but things kind of grew. But as a band, we aren't really able to get out there too much. John and I run Eulogy, Pete has Remembering Never, and the other dudes are busy with work. So we'll do trips when we can, but otherwise, we are stationary.

SFY: Is it hard running a label especially since eulogy is growing so much and being in a band?

Dan: It's hard running a small label, growing or not. This is a lot of fucking hard work, without a lot of appreciation. Kids now just spend their time fucking bitching and moaning about what everyone does..It's really disheartening. But we keep on going, and we won't stop because of what a few jackasses think they know.

SFY: What is the craziest thing that has ever happened at one of your shows?

Dan: There's been a lot of really crazy shit...and come to think of it, Shattered Realm was usually involved in some way.ahahahah.good guys...At one show in NJ, someone threw a small potted tree into the pit. At a show in PA, some of the SR guys ended up in a fight with the club owner, who was pummeled in the middle of our set...Whenever there's a fight when we play, we usually break out into "Firestorm." That usually draws kids attention away from fighting and back to us...it's just fucking silly. how can you fight while we're playing fucking "Firestorm?"

SFY: What is some of the music you have been listening to lately?

Dan: The new Outkast cd is amazing. Norah Jones put out the best record last year. The Neptunes, everything they touch turns to gold. I dunno, Face to Face has been in rotation a lot, the new Sick of it All, etc.

SFY: About Eulogy, what are some of the upcoming releases that are coming out?

Dan: Albert React, The Judas Cradle, Evergreen Terrace-Covers CD, Unsung Zeros..tons of shit.

SFY: Any last words?

Dan: Hey Ya!!!



TODD JONES

TODD JONES

Shooting the shit with the guitar player for Terror.

interview by travis

SFY Fanzine: Well first off, where you guys from and how long have you been together?

Todd Jones: We're all from California. We've been together since February 2002. We played our first show on April 26th 2002.

SFY Fanzine: So what's the deal with the covers situation? I know Terror covered Integrity atleast once, but ever since that haven't seen any others done. Do you just flip a coin before shows to decide?

Todd Jones: We've done 3 covers. At our first show we covered All I Ask and Kickback (back to back), we haven't played those songs since. And we covered Micha. That's it.

SFY Fanzine: What other covers have you done in the past?

Todd Jones: All I Ask and Kickback - both by the legendary BREAKDOWN.

SFY Fanzine: I heard a rumor that you weren't going to tour with Terror anymore, is that true? What's the story? Too busy?

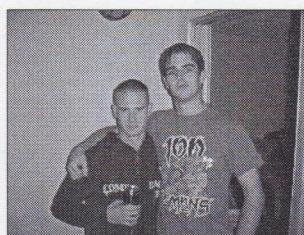
Todd Jones: Yeah, I hate touring. It's not for me.

SFY Fanzine: I'm sure you've been asked this before, but I'm sure you've been asked every single question possible so...did you guys get a lot of crap about the band name after the whole 9/11 situation? Playing Hoosier bars and somebody hears TERROR and comes running at you with an American flag to save his country from your band, anything like that?

Todd Jones: Actually no. Nobody trips out on us. The worst I heard, was that our friends mom yelled at him for wearing one of our t-shirts, but other than that, we haven't had any problems with our name.

SFY Fanzine: What are some problems or what really burns you out about hardcore these days?

Todd Jones: It seems that a lot of hardcore kids would rather spend their time talking shit about something they didn't like, instead of using their time to promote things that they supported. Too many people have opinions, and they like to voice their



Nick (right), drummer of Terror, and Todd (left)

opinion. If you don't have anything nice to say, keep it to yourself. Also, a lot of kids think it's okay to joke around and talk shit and play pranks on other kids without getting any repercussions for it. If you talk shit on someone, or say something stupid about someone, you should be prepared for some consequences.

SFY Fanzine: How was touring with Hatebreed? Was it pretty awkward playing with such a diverse crowd of people? Sign a lot of Autographs?

Todd Jones: I didn't go on that tour, I couldn't tell ya. (Travis was at two of these "Rise of Brutality" tour shows actually, making this even more stupid)

SFY Fanzine: How are your websites comin' along, would you like to tell a little about them?

Todd Jones: Hahaha. Terrorhc.com, I just maintain that and make sure everything is updated. I do a site toddjones.com and I'm gradually putting up stuff on there. I have pictures up there right now. Eventually I'll put up interviews with people I like. Guitar players, skateboarders, just stuff that I like and interests me. It's for my friends and for myself.



SFY Fanzine: Terror has gotten pretty big pretty fast so I gotta ask and wonder how do you feel about Terror being sold at Hot Topic? Being on the same rack as lets just say Good Charlotte?

Todd Jones: I feel great about it. There's nothing wrong with our CD's being available at those stores. I don't think there's anything wrong with hardcore music being available to the masses. And if it helps bring new kids to hardcore, I would say it would be a shame to not have our cd and other hardcore cd's sold at Hot Topic. Even if "lame hot topic" kids start showing up at shows everynow and then, there's nothing wrong with it, cuz they are either going to 1. Understand what hardcore is and learn and contribute to it, or 2. Stop coming to hardcore shows cuz all the hardcore kids alienate them because they aren't hardcore kids. Hardcore kids are very closed-minded, and we're supposed to be the most open minded people in the world. I know what's up, but unfortunately 90% of the people out there don't.

SFY Fanzine: If you got the chance would you ever make a music video for MTV? If you did what would it be like...A portrayal of a Todd Jones love story?

Todd Jones: We already made a music video, for our song Push It Away, but it wasn't a compatible format for MTV2. We're going to make a video when we record our album in February. We're not sure which song yet, but hopefully it will be in rotation on MTV2. It will probably just be footage of a show. Who knows. We're not into acting or being dramatic haha.

SFY Fanzine: No, but really you've guys been very busy with playing the big fest and touring a lot. A lot of exposure. What is Terror up to now, any new plans in the works?

Todd Jones: We're writing our new album right now, and we start recording that on February 9th at Sound City Studios in Van Nuys. Nirvana "Nevermind" was recorded there, and also, Strife "In This Defiance". We're way excited. We have about 9/10 completed songs so far, and we want to record 15 or 16 and have 13 or 14 on the album. We'll see how it goes.

SFY Fanzine: Have any good or embarrassing tour stories you would like to tell?

Todd Jones: I'm a boring dude. Real mellow. I don't get involved in crazy shit, and any crazy shit I was involved in, can't be repeated hahahaha.

SFY Fanzine: How's livin' the life in California? Have you had any surfboard mosh?

Todd Jones: I love California, it's the shit. Best state in the US, by fuckin' far.

SFY Fanzine: Anything else you would like to get OFF your CHEST?

Todd Jones: Nada bro. Keep ROLLING WITH THE PUNCHES.

STEP ON IT!

Local St. Louis band
and crowd-favorite
get their first ever
interview.
-Nick217

SFY: Why did you guys start Step On It!?

Nick: Step On It! was conceived one snowy drunken night in Greg's basement. Kill Me Kate was breaking up, and Daniel (drums) and Greg (guitar) wanted to start doing another hardcore band. We had talked about it for a year before anything actually happened.

SFY: Kill Me Kate?

Nick: Local "thrash-core" band. They were around for about 2 years. Definitely one of the better things to ever happen to St. Louis.



Adam (guitar) and Nick (vocals) Photo by Kate Silver

SFY: Some of your lyrics are absolute jokes about messing with local emo bands and kickboxing mosh, others are more serious. What songs are more fun to write?

Nick: The joke ones are easier, those happen because of a lack of anything intelligent to say. One was written by Daniel on the way to record it, in about 5 minutes. At the time I was having trouble thinking of anything to write seriously about, my head was a fuckin' mess. I like the serious lyrics more though. But getting drunk and making fun of people is a lot more fun.

SFY: You seem to live on the Internet. What are the best messageboards in order from best to worst?

Nick: I do feel comfortable behind a warm glowing computer screen. Plus I'm REALLY lazy. Best message board is my own Stlpunk.com profile, easily. Martyr Records board is a barrel of fun, and they give away Madball test presses. I'm pretty much sick of the others.

(Adam Bertels [guitar] joins interview, walks in carrying a 40 of Budweiser, says "fuck you nerds," and leaves)

SFY: How has the response in your hometown of St. Louis been?

Nick: Incredible, I was nervous about it at first; local bands never really got very good reactions at shows. But since the first show, kids have been going apeshit. It blows my mind. Everyone has been incredibly supportive. Shit, I'd put a monster thank you list right here, but I know your broke ass doesn't have the room to print it all. I love St. Louis.

SFY: Tell us about the "STLPunk Show."

Nick: So this website that I keep mentioning, Stlpunk.com, put on a benefit show to fund itself. It was pretty much 15-year olds and their pop-punk bands. It was attended by a good amount of kids whose parents had gotten there with their parents. Anyway, we played at about the middle of the show. We shut off the lights, Grady (sound guy) put on this rap song that we got drunk and recorded ourselves at Ben Smith's place about an hour earlier. Then we went into the first song on the demo. As soon as the lights went on, the place exploded. Dudes onstage soaking a room full of clueless kids with champagne, kids diving left and right, fake money flying, confetti, silly string, a beer bottle or two. My mic didn't work for 3/4ths of the set but it really didn't matter anyway, it was great. Definitely one of the my best "hardcore" memories. I remember you falling on stage and picking you up by the back of your pants and throwing you on some kids. Then clubbing somebody off the stage with the mic. I fell on stage, twice. Fuck, its really kind of a blur, everything I remember is from the video of it.

SFY: What are some of the better regional scenes in the midwest?

Nick: St. Louis and Chicago are the only ones I've been to shows in and not gotten disgusted. Great bands from both, Saturday Nights Alright For Fighting, To No End, Cardiac Arrest, and The Requiem from St. Louis. Chicago has SideXWalk, The Repos, Punch In The Face, Plan Of Attack, tons of good shit. I've heard good things about Minneapolis too, Any Last Words are pretty rad.

SFY: Disgusted?

Nick: Ha, yeah. There's something about kids being really hard and kicking people to a Gorilla Biscuits cover bums me out... until I see you standing in the middle of it all, middle fingers in the air, yelling "fuck you all."

SFY: You know when bands say they have a "unique sound" they are lying. Name no more than five bands that Step On It! draws influences from.

Nick: Shit, I don't write the music. I know Greg listens to A LOT of Sum41. Haha. I'll just say you may hear traces of: Slapshot, Underdog, A-Team, Modern Life Is War, and Carry On. And \$K@RHE@D.

SFY: I hear you live very close to where rap superstar CHINGY is from. Have you been to the "Holiday Inn"?

Nick: I think its "Holidae Inn" isn't it?

SFY: Oh, I stand corrected.

Nick: I actually used to have birthday parties there when I was in elementary school. They have a minigolf course, volleyball, video games, I understand why Snoop and Mr. Wiggles are down with Chingy on that shit.

SFY: Any tour plans for you guys?

Nick: We're looking to do some touring this summer. The Devastator is hooking us up on all that shit right now I think. It's definitely one of the main reasons we're doing this. None of us has really been on a tour, so I hope it happens this time.

SFY: You're recording a 7" in your house. Tell us about that.

Nick: Yeah, the weekend of Feb. 27. I think we're clearing out the bedrooms and playing in one and setting up the "controls" in another. Something like that. 10 songs probably. Hopefully we'll get it out before too long.

SFY: Where can people hear your stuff right now? website? mp3s? mailing address?

Nick: Adam (guitar) is working on the website right now. You can hear mp3s on www.stlpunk.com, you have to go there and search "STEP ON IT!" it should take you to our page. Also I think we have something up at www.megaradyouth.com/steponit.htm. We should have some type of demo to send out, if you want one of those email me at NickMaxey@charter.net

SFY: Are you looking for a label to put out that record?

Nick: A label would definitely help.

SFY: Living in the midwest, a lot of people never get to see their favorite hardcore band that many times. What touring act have you seen the most?

Nick: Whatever, I think I've seen just about everyone I've wanted to. American Nightmare I guess, something like 15 times. Just because I had to drive Joey's bitch ass to meet them and bring him home everytime he went out with them. I think Terror is somewhere around 10 times.

SFY: How is the STL STRAIGHT EDGE scene? Seriously.

Nick: HAAAAAA! Incredible. And by incredible I mean non-existent. Not that there aren't a few edge kids around, but I don't think I'd consider it "the EDGE scene". They're just hardcore kids that happen to be edge.

SFY: When is Step On It! covering a Warzone song? I used to listen to "The Victory Years" driving to high school for all my senior year.

Nick: Apparently "We don't want to cover anymore hardcore songs." Not my decision, but it may be a good idea since we butchered Dag Nasty ("I've Heard") at our first show.

SFY: So what are your long term plans as a band? realistically?

Nick: Realistically, right now we're only worrying about getting this shit recorded and released... then touring and having fun.

SFY: Seriously though, why can't Step On It! at least cover "Intro/Bus" by Warzone? That's easy enough, and NO WORDS to memorize!...Drums that make ya shit!

Nick: HAHA, only if you promise to beat the shit out of whoever I tell you to when it happens.

SFY: I can make that happen. unless it's a guy with neck tats

Nick: Yeah, neck tats are HARD...and you're the one that has to convince Greg to do the cover.

SFY: That about wraps it up, but what does the midwest have that either coast doesn't?

Nick: Sweet Dude Mosh. The Lemp Arts Center. The Devastator. Speak For Yourself. The Arch. White Castle. Steak N Shake... (I think).

SFY: Rad.

Disclosure time: I am good friends with Nick, but we here at SFY don't interview second-rate bands. Step On It! is easily one of my favorite hardcore bands, so check 'em out. (Interview conducted Feb. 3, 2004.)

SFY: Alright, you guys have two new members recently, how's that working out for you?

Chris: Oh it's going pretty good, we're showing them the ropes, (Chris and Phil are the two new members by the way) we're trying to break them in man, trying to teach them all this new stuff but you know, it's going kinda slow.

Kevin: A lot of hazing.

SFY: What does this hazing entail?

Mitch: Sticking my dick in Chris' yogurt, Jayme putting it on video.

[Lots of laughing, I'm not laughing though].

Kevin: Lots of Alcohol

Chris: Now we're all going to jail.

SFY: Alright so who does what in the band? blah, blah, blah...

Kevin: I play bass.

Mitch: I play drums and get naked.

Phil: I play guitar, Johnny X plays guitar and Chris sings.

Mikey: Hey you're not supposed to answer for everybody!

Johnny: Thanks for answering for me.

Phil: I'm sorry.

SFY: You fucking asshole.

Phil: Hey I read the interviews in the zine, that's the way it works.

SFY: How was the show in San Diego [Che Fest]?

Did you guys get a good response?

Kevin: It was fucking amazing, SD kids are incredible, they dance for everybody.

Phil: I had a good time.

SFY: You weren't in the band then!

Mitch: It was the most amazing trip down there and back just hanging out with everybody.

Kevin: It was definitely cool hanging out with everybody.

Mitch: Me and Chris really got to know each other better.

Chris: The trip there and back was equally as fun as the show.

SFY: Now that I'm kinda going that way, Johnny X told me to ask some questions about Camo beer, Arbor Mist, and Mitch's nudity, of which we've already covered for the most part.

Kevin: From here on out we refer to it as the Camo.

Chris: As of 72 hours ago, I decided I'm not going to drink anymore.

SFY: Why's that? Did somebody pull a gun on you again?

Chris: Because I actually threw a brick through a bank window. That's the honest to god's truth. I just decided I'm to old for that stuff man. 'Cause I don't drink to be social, I drink to get drunk and then stupid stuff happens and then in the morning I regret it because I'm older than dirt. I shouldn't be doing stuff like that.

Kevin: As of seven minutes ago me and Mitch are still drinking.

Mitch: And if I buy that Blackguy, or that Deadguy beer, you're gonna have one with me.

SFY: Deadguy beer?

Mitch: It's called Deadguy beer!

SFY: Like the band Deadguy?

Mitch: yeah, it's got a skull on the front, like the skull is drinking beer.

SFY: Alright...You guys have been a pretty productive band that's been around for over a year and has a decent amount of popularity in St. Louis. What's your secret?

Mitch: Luck.

Johnny X: Probably luck, yeah.

Kevin: Yeah, we haven't broken up yet.

THE REQUIEM

LINE UP:

Chris - vocals
Johnny X - guitar
Kevin - bass
Mitch - drums
Phil - guitar

interview by mikey bones

SFY: (laughs) Yeah, that might have something to do with it.

Mitch: We play a variety of shows too.

Chris: Well if I might say, I think the fact that all of us have been in bands before kinda helps. I mean, everybody knows who we are. Second, it's because we're good-looking guys.

Kevin: We write to have fun, and write what we want to hear. If we play to five people, we're still having a ball.

SFY: Are you guys pretty pleased with the support you get from the people here overall?

Johnny X: It's better than normal for a local band. I think the local scene in general is getting a lot stronger now.

Kevin: I think the last show we played with Hyphen-O, to see all these kids with mohawks doing circle pits while we were playing is kind of refreshing.

SFY: Chris, what do you think about Taz?

Chris: Taz?

SFY: Do you think he likes anything in particular? [Chris works at a tattoo shop frequented by white trash dudes with tattoo's of Taz with banners underneath that say, "Taz likes pussy."]

Chris: Well I know he likes pussy, and the color orange. All I got to say is, "If you can read this, the bitch fell off."

SFY: Alright, I'm kinda running outta questions. Here, so tell me a story.

Kevin: Jesus Christ, where do we even begin?

Chris: About the band?

Mitch: The crime scene shed story?

SFY: Yeah, about the band.

Chris: Dude, I'll bet pound for pound, and in this band there are quite a few pounds, we're the craziest band in St. Louis, cause we will do anything. We're homosexuals, we're drunks, uh, we're daredevils.

Kevin: I set myself on fire.

Mitch and Chris: Burn a Bible. [I swear on the tape they say this at the same time for no reason, weird.]

SFY: You set yourself on fire, how'd you manage that?

Kevin: Well, we had a party at my house and we got really loaded and poured gasoline on my driveway and set it on fire. Then I had Carzan pour gasoline on my shoes and I ran through fire and I ran down the streets with my legs on fire. Not just once, multiple times.

Chris: Kevin's house is a party house and we have band practice and proceed to get drunk...There's this hill on the side of Kevin's house and we always go to the top of this hill and throw our empty bottles out onto the highway. Not, once, twice, but three times, I've thrown something out onto the highway, hit a car, turned around to run back down the hill and fell and tumbled. Last time I fell face first into a tree and got mud all over my pants and still went out for Mitch's birthday.

Phil: On Mitch's birthday we got back at six am and me and Mitch decided to throw stuff.

Chris: A Broken snare drum.

Kevin: During Monday morning rush hour.

Phil: Yeah, Monday morning rush hour, I had a bottle and Mitch had a snare drum and threw it, it clipped my thumb, and now I have a big scar on my thumb.

Chris: To go with his thumb, he has a thorn stuck in his arm, because he lost a dice bet and he had to run through a thorn bush completely naked and he did it. It was about 4-5 months ago and he still has a thorn stuck

in his arm.

Phil: You can feel it if you want.

Chris: Can we talk about music now? Pound for pound? Hahahahaha, not the band, us!

SFY: Oh, not the band? Mitch, what's your favorite album of 2003?

Mitch: I don't know, I guess I should know this shouldn't I?

SFY: Do you like the new Blink 182?

Mitch: Oh fuck you dude!!! Yeah, I like the new Blink 182.

SFY: Any big plans for the next year [2004]?

Kevin: Yeah, looks like we're gonna do a split with Any Last Words from Minneapolis. Justin @ Darkfront will be putting that out. We wanna tour for two weeks this summer at least.

Chris: We're gonna try to do a comp with only St. Louis hardcore and punk bands on it, like 8-10 bands or something. We haven't talked to anybody about it yet though.

Kevin: There's definitely some cool bands out right now that deserve exposure.

SFY: Any last words, plugs, shout outs etc...?

Chris: Justin Deye Mofo

Mitch: Mark(@ Lemp Arts)

Kevin: Mark and Justin are probably the two people that have helped The Requiem a lot. Kate Silver is doing amazing photos of local bands.

Mitch: Michelle for getting us the show in San Diego.

Chris: That girl for the show in Memphis.

Mitch: Allie

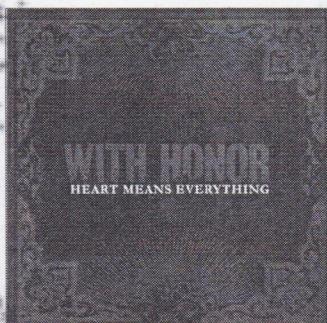


clockwise
from top left:
Phil, Chris, Kevin,
Mitch, Johnny X

PHOTOS BY JAYME LYN,
KATE SILVER
x tony j. x

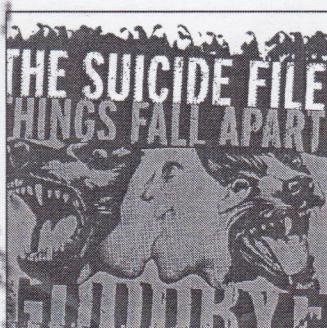
REVIEWS

by nick217



With Honor - Heart Means Everything (Stillborn Records)

This band is going to be huge. You can easily tell from their music. The music is huge. Huge guitars, huge gang vocals, hugely important lyrics. Everything about With Honor is big. After seeing them live and hearing a track on the internet, I got a hold of this album for a review. Upon first listen, the music sounds polished--perfect for the modern hardcore kid who Xs up in mom's minivan--and there's nothing wrong with that. The music has lightly melodic overlays, usually over crunchy guitars and lyrics that are so important, they are in all upper-case in the liner notes. Track eight provides an intermission of sorts (BANE, anyone?) with a single acoustic guitar and faux-record noises full of scratches and pops as if you're listening to a record from 50 years ago. With Honor provide a solid release. It's all very new and vibrant, urgent and not a bit understated. Layout done by Rob Dobi, of emo design fame. The liner notes are intentionally yellow and faded, as if the lyrics printed on them are of the utmost importance and should be revered. Get into With Honor. They are definitely worth a shot. I guarantee it's going to grow on you. For fans of Bane, Champion, Verse.



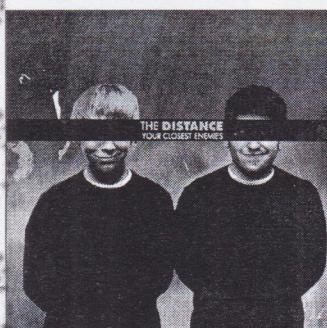
Suicide File - Things Fall Apart 7" (Indecision Records)

Still the most punk band in hardcore, the Suicide File leave this EP for their fans to enjoy long after they go down in the hardcore books as just another band that broke up too soon. The record starts off with a pretty general song, "2003," with lyrics you've come to expect from the band--"No love, just sex. The American Way." The Fox News channel is another big target on the second track. This is one of the few hardcore bands that remained political without coming off as preachy, just pissed, and demanding change or face a direct and noisy boycott. Musically, this release covers all parts of the Suicide File's sound. The rollicking guitars are here, and so is some of the best drumming in hardcore (you'll air-drum to this record), but so are the screaming over almost no instrumentation arts (see "I like the Nightlife, Baby" for that part). The last track is slower number, one that is slightly reminiscent to "Song for Tonight" (off the Twilight LP). This is the best track on the record. Suicide File didn't change a thing or this last record. It's a short piece of music, and hardcore is definitely less diverse (not too mention a lot smarter) and punk rock without them. 5 out of 5. Hopefully it's not out of press by print time.



Sick of It All - Relentless EP (Bridge 9 Records)

The much-delayed Sick of It All 7" finally came in the mail. This record was pushed back because of many reasons, the biggest being the fact that the band's other label, Fat Wreck Chords, was putting out their full-length at around roughly the same time. But that's neither here nor there. SOIA are still attacking everything. "Relentless" lyrics read like some sort of punk rock manifesto. Side B starts with the tough and slower "Who Will Be Next?" This track is weaker than what I was expecting, and I have to say I'm a little disappointed. I wonder if this was cut from their LP, "Life on the Ropes?" I had high expectations for the last track, "Can't Wait to Quit," and I was not let down. It starts off with a great drum fill, goes into the fast-fast part, and gets melodic at just the right point to make it memorable. This is the best track on the record. Artwork is once again drawn by Mike Pappa, giving it that cool comic book look. Hopefully by putting this on the currently popular Bridge 9 label, stupid hardcore kids will actually listen to this band instead of their Breathe In CDs.



The Distance - Your Closest Enemies (Bridge 9 Records)

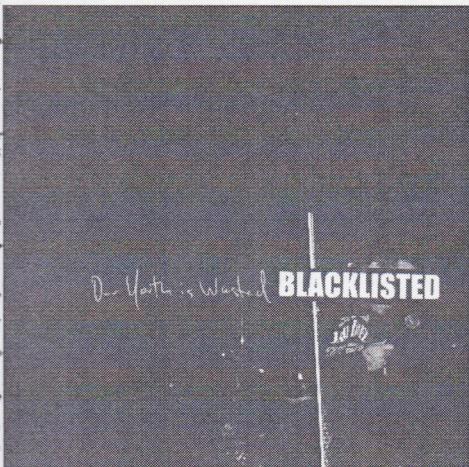
Their first release on Bridge 9 Records, Connecticut's The Distance present this record. Full of fast hardcore, this band takes no chances on doing something completely different or new, they are just playing music they like--fast hardcore with pissed-lyrics. If a band plays a type of music that so many other bands play? How did The Distance get so fucking good and stick out from the rest? The vocals definitely stick out, and have some human inflection to them, making the lyrics (they read like a diary written by Michael Douglas' character in "Falling Down") all the more urgent and pissed. There are some hints of positivity on some songs, however, most obviously on "Dig Yourself Out." Best track is definitely the aptly titled "Get Fucked," with a close second being "Those Black and Blues Look So Good on You." As far as music goes, this is a solid record. Fast parts, slow parts, sing alongs, this could easily be your first hardcore record, and you would fucking love it.



Give up the Ghost - Love American EP (Bridge 9 Records)

This 7" picture disk starts off with "Love American," also the first track off "We're Down 'Til We're Underground," GUTG's LP released this year. This is strictly a collector's item, as the second track, "The Hell We've Been Living In," is also a decent song. Check this out if you're a fan of the band, otherwise, I would get the band's other, more comprehensive releases.

REVIEWS



Blacklisted - Our Youth is Wasted

From Philadelphia, PA-- a city that is known in the hardcore scene as having almost no good places for bands to play unless you're an arena rock band-- comes Blacklisted. If you read their first-ever interview in the last issue of this fine publication, you are familiar with this band. They put out their demo in a 7" format on Walk All Night records, and soon after were signed to Stillborn Records and put out this record. Musically I think of the Cro-Mags, Breakdown, and all things New York Hardcore. Of course, the production quality is top notch, and this cd comes across feeling like a rusty shovel hitting a baby in the face. Lyrically, (good luck reading the white on black, hand-written lyrics on the liner notes) are that of your alienated youth, angry kids, etc etc. Basically it's the stuff that any pissed-off kid from anywhere can relate to. George's vocals are wailing, over-the-top angry screams. Get into this band if you like pounding, pissed hardcore. The soundtrack to punching holes in walls.

Tracks you should listen to first: "Crossed Fingers," and "3800 (We're Unstoppable)."

www.stillbornrecords.com

www.walkallnight.com

-Nick 217

Side x Walk - Demo '03

Devastator Grading Scale-- 4 out of 5

One of Chicago's newest straight edge bands called Sidewalk is debuting with the release of four originals and a Side By Side cover. Reminiscent to skank-heavy hardcore similar to bands like Mental and Stop and Think. With Chicago's very own Organized Crime Records putting out Side x Walk 7" in the near future, this band will be "getting low" in '04.

(Coming to the Lemp Arts Center February 14, 2004 with Step On It! and Cardiac Arrest)

-Adam the Devastator

SEND IN
YOUR
MUSIC
OR ZINE
FOR
REVIEW!

E-Mail me at
Lucchesi217@yahoo.com
for info

Andrew W.K. - The Wolf

Andrew W.K. taught us on his debut release all about his love for partying. This album follows in the same vein while also allowing 'Dub K to traverse a little deeper into his emotions. Not to be mistaken for some sort of pansy, toned down effort, The Wolf is a solid follow up album further proving Andrew W.K.'s status as the leader of a positive rebellion against conformity and unfounded hate.

Musically the album doesn't sound much different from his first release, each track carrying the same anthemic beat and W.K.'s throaty, half-scream vocals. Lyrically speaking, the whole album is a bit contrived. Every song carries the same message said in different, unoriginal ways, but we learned from his first release that he wasn't exactly Shakespeare. All we want to hear is good, fast, danceable rock. And Andrew W.K. has once again delivered. Highlight Tracks: "Free Jumps," "Your Rules," "The Song"

-Dan

Tear It Up- Taking You Down With Me (Havoc Records)

I had been waiting for this e.p. to come out for way to long, but it was well worth the wait. I cannot express how highly upset and disappointed I am that Tear it up decided to call it quits, they have been one of my favorites ever since I heard they're first 7", and since that first 7" the band progressed and only got better, Taking you down with me, the follow up to they're full length "noting to nothing" on dead alive, all I can say is what a way to go out. This record didn't leave my turntable for weeks. There is not a disappointing song on this record, not a boring riff or any down falls, its fast dead nation style hardcore with black flag style riffs/meets total rock, with the typical angry, depressed Tear it up lyrics, what more could you want. There are no favorites off of this record, its like choosing between children, its just simply one of my favorite records right now, and it's the best thing I have gotten my hands on since Cut the Shit's "harmed and dangerous". This record was meant to be a 7", but it was too long, so it was released as a 12" a 45 rpm, the cd version contains the Tear it up side of the out of print split with N.J.'s Down in Flames, plus a killer live set.

As for the band, I guess its true that all good things must come to an end.

"Let it be known that Tear It Up went out at the top and never put out a weak record or put on a lame half hearted show." - Havoc Records

T.I.U. - R.I.P.

-Brandon

Corbeta Corbata - Entertainment Complex

The first time I heard this band, I was 16 and completely oblivious to any local punk scene in St. Louis. A friend stopped by my house one night and handed me the Compound Fracture CD. He assured me that I would like it. I put it in, not knowing any of the bands on there. From the first few seconds of "Shank or Shiv" by Corbeta Corbata, it was clear that this band was different from the rest. Now, a year and a half later, I'm no longer oblivious to the scene, and Corbeta Corbata has put out one amazing album. To begin with, the CD comes wrapped in a DVD style case (cute as hell) and has very eye catching cover art done by Picklehead (also cute as hell). But aside from the sexy exterior, I was not disappointed once I finally put the CD in my stereo.

"Here's to the Good Life" (track 1), "On the Wire" (track 2), and "87 Octane" (track 5) all remind me of stuff from the late 80s grunge scene like Sonic Youth and Nirvana (Before Nevermind!). Other tracks that I particularly enjoy are "From the Men to the Boys" (track 4) and "Sink" (track 11). On "Half Empty" (track 10) it is very apparent that the guitar and bass are out of tune, but none the less, the value of the track in its entirety overrides any minor mistakes that were made.

Overall, I have to hand it to Ben Smith and the rest of Corbeta Corbata for putting together a unique and rockin' album all on there own. This is by far one of the best "Independent" albums I've ever heard. If you haven't heard this band, I definitely recommend you get out to one of their shows and buy this album.

www.2keysindustries.com

-Pat C.

REVIEWS

Lye By Mistake - Demo '03

Devastator grading scale: 3 out of 5

This is a top-notch tech-metal mosh band from St. Louis, MO. They have been playing shows since October and are not wasting time. They already have a east coast tour for January '04 lined up. They gave me their demo when I booked them at The Lemp Arts Center with Flattbush and Sine Nomine in December of '03. I was very impressed with their jazzy, almost salsa feeling-breakdowns and crazy off-rhythm beats, but was not really feeling it on the mosh breakdowns. They do not have the pummeling double bass, and you can hardly hear the bass guitar on these two jams that are on the demo. I feel like this band could give The Red Chord or Burnt By The Sun a run for their money if they put another guitar player in the mix and turned up the bass. If you are coming to St. Louis wth a touring tech mosh metal email these guys: lyebybooking@hotmail.com. Great guys, Great Jams

-Adam The Devastator

THE FRONTLINE- "Demo 03" (#72/100)

I ordered this demo, having heard NOTHING about the band except a minute amount of hype (probably from their friends) on an unnamed message board. It came quicky, so I definitely want to give them a thumbs up for proficient service... way to go guys!

Layout is decent, cassette format, "dramatic" military graphic on front. First time I listened to it, it was the sole purpose of getting a feel for the sound... trying to think of something to describe it as (which we all know can be done by citing a small list of bands as OBVIOUS "influences").

Description? Probably a less produced Trial. Melodic, buildup, "faster" part, "emotional" breakdown, random chug.... the works. The recording is pretty good for a demo. I'm a little iffy on the vocals. It would take a better recording to decide whether the screamy vocals thrown in here and there are cheesey or just right.

All in all, not bad. I listened to it a few times, and didn't throw it out the window. Thats should be considered a good thing, unless you're into the kinda shit I toss and find it on the side of the road. My last observation before writing this (about 2 minutes ago) was reading the lyrics. Not impressed. 3/4 songs i believe are about a girl/girls. Dont get me wrong I love many a song on the topic, but i dont get saying "thats the show you how much you meant to me. nothing at all..." doesnt really make sense to me when i know full well that it meant enough for there to be 3/4 songs written about "You" and be recorded for a tape that would be representative of my band. Maybe im just bitter because I've spent all day trying to write about pizza and beer, to no avail. Oh well, maybe ill change my mind on this tomorrow. we'll see.

contact: thewowswehave@hotmaill.com

-Nick M.

Say Goodbye

Tour CD/LP, will be available soon from WesternXFront Records.

Rating: 4.5/5

This band is absolutely amazing! Great. Great. Great. I was so impressed by their live set in Nashville. The vocals remind me somewhat of Shark Attack, which is ironic because he wore a Shark Attack shirt that night. There are amazing bass lines all over this record. With James on guitar, and the drummer(his name escapes me right now) tie it all up to make this record fn incredible. Great mosh parts, amazing lyrics, this album has it all. This is a MUST HAVE for any hardcore/punk kid. I'm not sure what the packaging/art is going to look like. They are mailing out the final copies in a few weeks. I can not wait to book these boys. StL keep a look out.

saygoodbyehc@hotmail.com

-JaymeLyn

XFilesX, R'n'R, Say Goodbye, Have Heart Welcome to New Bedford Compilation

Rating: 4/5

This was a free sampler James from Say Goodbye gave to me. It's a solid DIY sampler. It consist of two R'n'R tracks, "Hardcore" and "No Bullshit". It's R'n'R, so I don't have to explain how good they are. It also has two Say Goodbye songs. "How Much" is one of them. That song is off of their 7," Anti-Social, on Western Front Records; probably one of my favorite songs of the 7." XFilesX also offered some great material for this compilation. Have Heart, Civil Defense, Police Beat, and Time to Pay also contributed. Time To Pay's demo track is great. Every band is worth checking out. This comp. will be in and out of my CD player for the next few weeks.

-Jayme Lyn

Get Down 7"

The first time I heard about this band was when one of it's members posted a rough mp3 somewhere. I didn't like it. After getting this 7" just for the hell of it, I really don't remember why I disliked the first taste. The layout is really different, with a relaxing baby blue/turquoise-ish color cover and some car-toony clouds like you'd see on a nintendo game. Rad fold-out poster insert with lyrics and a lot of fucking Nikes cut and pasted all over the place. If you've heard of this band, it's either because of the members' resumes or because you heard some dude say they sound like SWIZ. Resumes, who gives a shit... okay, mainly everyone. But when the last time you checked out a new record and thought "holy shit, it's SWIZ". Yeah, pretty fucking cool. These 5 mostly mid-paced, very rockin jams have a recording about as good as the songs themselves, so you should not be disappointed. Good change of pace. Get this.

www.painkillerrecords.com

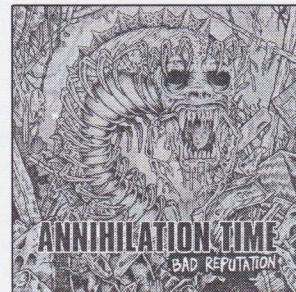
www.getdownhdc.com

-Nick M.

Attitude - "The Ill Faced Method" demo

I picked this up at an Outbreak show for a dollar. Wasn't exactly sure what to expect but figured it had to be worth the dollar. First impression was based on the very half-assed layout. I like to see bands put somewhat of an effort into presenting their bands, although I know "it's not about image", if you give a shit about your music, but a little thought into the whole package. Down to the music... Okay, not yet, there's a spoken word intro... telling me what "real" hardcore is. Apparently "it's not punk and it's not metal, I repeat: it's not metal". The intro also defines the band as being not an "old school band" or "posi-core band" and goes onto explain why. It seems however, they ARE a "straight-edge hardcore band". Not really too sure what to think of all that. I feel lectured. Thanks dudes. Oh, here's the music. An intro, music intro. Really moshy NY feel, pretty rad. The following 6 tracks are all pretty standard hardcore songs, also along the NYHC track. Rather slow tom and snare skank-downs between thrashy guitar parts. I'm thinking this band is one that must be seen live to be appreciated. I mean, the songs are pretty solid for the most part, but I've been pretty bored with this demo... except for when I'm drunk as shit, alone, in my room at 3 in the morning(whatever the fuck that means, It can't be all that bad). Regardless, check it out for yourself and come to your own conclusion. www.attitudenhc.com

-Nick M.



Annihilation Time - Bad Reputation 7" EP DeadAlive Records

"Bad Reputation" is a little more "rock" than the first LP, but it definitely still has the same feel as the full-length. It's worth picking up. As I said before, they do a good rendition of "Bad Reputation" (track 3) by Thin Lizzy, and actually add their own style to it, something a lot of hardcore bands DON'T DO, and it's really annoying.

The first track, "Fast Forward to the Gore," is about exactly what you think it's about, and has a good little finger-tapping solo and lots of guitar work, right into the galloping guitar perfect for some crazy violent circle pits. track two is about earthquakes, track four, "panic," is about the boston band. HAHAHA YEAH I WENT THERE. no really, it's a good track to end the 7" on, and is most likely about a really bad headache or drugs. I'm thinking it's probably drugs.

As far as vocals, they have a little more inflection and more of a "rocker" feel, not as gruff as on the LP. Thanks to the Martyr Records Messageboard for allowing me to use this review twice. www.deadaliverecords.com

-Nick 217

REVIEWS

by nick217 - lucchesi217@yahoo.com

Blue Monday - What's Done is Done (Perfect Victim Records - www.stabandkill.com)

So good. This record is going to be on my playlist for quite a while. If you like perfect-production value hardcore with metallic guitars, vocals you can understand, but still are as angry as a high school janitor cleaning up vomit in the middle of a math class with every hot girl laughing at him, and breakdowns and build-ups that give you goosebumps, check this band out. They have the best spazzed-out thrash parts perfect for jumping around and hurting people, and the loudest sing alongs and stompy mosh parts. Stand-out tracks include: "Number One" (the best track), and "The Rain," which shows a pleasantly surprising melodic side to the band. This is my "BUY THIS RECORD, NOW!" pick of the issue.

Madball - N.Y.H.C. EP

(Thorp Records - www.stonecitymusic.com)

A new release from Madball on Thorp (The vinyl version will be on Martyr Records). This cd is aptly titled, "NYHC." It is all hardcore with a little hip-hop influence, and definitely a continuation of the "Hold It Down" LP that came out on Epitaph Records a few years ago.

Four songs long, and just enough for a taste of what this band still has to offer. If you were expecting something like "Set It Off," you're going to be wrong, albeit not disappointed. This is just another record that every hardcore kid living in 2004 should have in their collection. Lots of mosh, less New York thrash-type stuff, although it is present, especially in songs like "Tight Rope." I highly suggest you pick this up, but maybe get the "Demonstrating My Style" and "Set It Off" CDs too.

Some Kind of Hate - Undisputed

(Bridge 9 Records - www.bridge9.com)

First full length. Much of the same style as their first EP, with a few exceptions. More of a chaotic, punk feel to some songs, where others possess growl-richer-than-ever vocals ("Fuck These People"). No song comes in at over two minutes by my count, and SKOH could easily be the band that gets some random kid into hardcore music for the first time. They keep it simple, stick to hardcore, and don't take any chances by going outside of the hardcore realm; but include all of 25-year old genre's influences. Best Track: "Calling All Bastards," with "And In this Corner" coming in a close second. I've seen this record in CD form at every store in town, pick it up.

Desperate Measures - Never Enough Time
(Youngblood Records - youngblood-records.com)

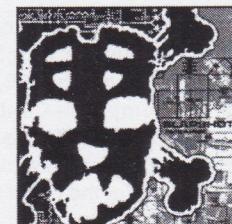
The first full-length album from this Maryland hardcore band. If you owned the first 7" by this band, it wouldn't be out of line to compare the band vocally and musically to Side By Side. This release, however, has Desperate Measures coming into their own style, with vocals that are not as similar to Jules' of Side By Side, and music that is still traditional hardcore, 100% -- just not as big of an homage to bands from the 1988-era of youth crew. Coming in at under 20 minutes, "Never Enough Time," keeps it short like good records should be. "Addiction" is a good track, and yes, the edge element is still there. Also check out "Won't Change a Thing," my favorite song on the record for its unrelenting speed into a suddenly slowed bass line, finishing with the almighty mosh part. This album succeeds best when it's listened to as one cohesive element, as the only a few songs stick out individually. This is where it lacks when compared to the 7", where every song became memorable for a great line or shouted chorus teamed with guitar. That being said, Desperate Measures are the band to look out for in 2004. With a big tour on this LP, this band could get some much-deserved exposure outside of the east coast area.



Slapshot - Digital Warfare

(Bridge 9 Records - www.bridge9.com)

A new album from Slapshot? After the release of the Greatest Hits record on Bridge 9 a year ago, people like me were hoping that maybe they could put a new album down. Choke is ferocious, attacking everything in his lyrics. I should keep this short, because everything about this band has already been said by hardcore kids and music critics for the past 15 or so years. This album has less slow punk songs, more hard-hitting rock and sped-up slam dancing hardcore tracks. This is a record for younger kids who probably had heard of Slapshot, but were too busy concerning themselves with newer hardcore bands. "Digital Warfare" is Slapshot's return to the world of hardcore, giving people who weren't around in years past a chance to hear some new material. It's often said that people mellow out when they get older, or just stop caring. Choke is still full of piss and vinegar - more so than most hardcore vocalists today, who can be criticized for choosing stale topics to write about and having no emotion in their voices, whatsoever. Just one listen to "Identity" off this LP will let the listener know Slapshot is still here. Oh, and let's not forget the song, "Stupid Fucking Kids." "Had It With Unity" is not to be missed either. A modified and longer version of "Straight-Edge" by Minor Threat is placed right in the middle of the record as well. Choke remains the voice of reason in the fickle hardcore world.



Jaguarz -

Jungle Jamz Demo

(Lockin'Out Records - www.lockinout.com)

Bouncy Boston hardcore. This is Boston hardcore these days. If you dig bands like Stop and Think, Mental, etc etc etc, try and find this demo online somewhere. This is a decent demo, I'd love to see these guys live. I just can't imagine anything but a big "getting low" pit for them. I just hope they stick it out, maybe put out a full-length, and become hardcore legends. Also "Law of the Jungle's" guitar opening sounds similar to Underdog "Say It (To My Face)" So check that influence as well. Best songs: "Catch Up," and "Get the Fuck Back Down"



Stampin' Ground / North Side Kings Split

(Thorp Records)

A fun split from two tough bands. Stampin' Ground does all covers, beginning with a really metal version of "Bringin' It Down" by Judge, and continues to do songs by the Cro-Mags, Knuckledust, Agnostic Front, and even Inside Out. Pretty good stuff that was all recorded for various other projects, but most never saw the light of day, so now it's on this CD. The North Side Kings follow suit with some covers, beginning with a not-as-good-as-the-OG "Fuck the Middle East" by Stormtroopers of Death. Also do an original NSK song, a DRI cover, the same Cro-Mags cover as Stampin' Ground did ("Malfunction"), and a few others including a A-Team (the show, not the band) theme song. This is a pretty good release, and my first real taste of what these bands have to offer besides a few NSK songs I had heard. Metal and hardcore minus the solos of course. Check it out on Thorp.



REVIEWS



photos by Kate Silver

Outbreak, The Distance, To No End, Saturday Night's Alright For Fighting Tuesday December 30, 2003

@ The Lemp Arts Center -- St. Louis MO

I was waiting for this show for quite some time now and it was everything I had hoped for. Except for the out of town kickboxer kicking my friends because apparently its cool to run into a bunch of people and kick them. I don't understand why people can't respect there neighbors. So if you come to St. Louis for a show all I ask is you chill out.

Saturday Nights Alright For Fighting is an up and coming band from St. Louis. They play good, fast skanking hardcore with a bit of mosh. They have some terror-ish tendencies. They played first with a strong performance and set the tone for the show. A couple kids were moving around, and overall it was one of the better sets I have seen them play.

To No End is St. Louis' answer to great old school type hardcore. Holy shit, this band is one the best midwest bands --and their time is coming to a end. They played second, did an amazing set, and finished with a Negative Approach cover that even made some of the kids in Outbreak get rowdy. I have had a pleasure to see the majority of To No End's shows and they keep getting better and better everytime I see them play. It bums me out knowing one of my favorite hardcore bands is breaking up

in the near future due to the fact that only the guritar player, Scott, supports the scene. The other guys in the band are cool kids and I hope they will not give up on hardcore once their band is done. Much love for these guys.

The Distance coming from Connecticut brought us a great taste of what the east coast does best. They played third and had a bunch of kids dancing hard for them. This was when some of the kickboxers had something to prove and pretty much went around and kicked people. I had a good time for them I was getting low and tried to keep my friends in tact. Bridge 9 are putting out there next effort called "Your Closet Enemies." They had a tour edition 7" on this tour. Jay Reason and the other guys are some of the raddest guys and didn't take anything for granted. I could tell they love



hardcore and was having the time of there life playing small DIY venues.

Outbreak. I love this band. This was probably my favorite show I have booked. They played last and ended the show with a bang. The only thing that bummed me out was when a little fight happened with one of my best friends. It was broken up real quick. Outbreak played a flawless Bad Brains cover and had one of the best reactions a hardcore band has ever had in St. Louis. I had the time of my life going off for Outbreak. They are definitely one of my favorite bands and they are some real chill dudes. Ryan, the singer, got on the merch table and jumped into a bunch of kids. It was nuts. A lot of dives for a floor show. They ended their set with "No One Cares" and everyone at the show was thrashing. This band is over the top.

- Adam the Devastator

RANT So a couple months ago I heard somebody say "Hardcore ruined my life." They weren't bitter about it, they weren't angry, but they meant it, and it got me to thinking. At the time I thought, "Shit. This hasn't ruined my life. It's made my life." Without punk and hardcore I'd have a total of about five memories from high school 'til now, and I don't have any idea where I'd be or what I'd do with my time. But man, lately I been thinking, and you know what. . . Hardcore has ruined my life. I'm 22. My band equipment and music collection are easily worth twice as much as my car. I've gone to three different colleges in the last five years, and I'm gonna start goin to number four

in a couple months. I don't have a degree. And while it's true that goin to school and workin at the same time is hard, and I've changed my mind a few times about what I study, I know the real reason I am where I'm at. It's 'cause I care more about going to shows and playing in bands than anything else. I've been doin this for years now, and the more I do it, the more I realize that this is an all-consuming lifestyle. On the other hand, the more I realize it, the less I care. I've never been happier. I know how it must look to somebody on the outside. I can read the eyes of my college advisors and the people I work with. Yeah, hardcore's ruined my life... and I wouldn't have it any other way. -PHIL BRANCH

WRANGLER BRUTES - DEMO

This is the newest endeavor by former BORN AGAINST vocalist Sam McPheeters. It also features the guitarist of MONORCHID I believe. This basically sounds like a perfect blend of BORN AGAINST and MONORCHID. The demo features 16 songs all recorded during a live show and is fucking incredible in my opinion. Your best bet for getting this demo would be to download it off of soulseek (or one of the various other free file sharing programs) because as far as I know this was only available on their recent semi-secret tour. You might try writing to Vermiform Records to see if they still have any available though. Vermiform Records 112 Harvard Ave. #316 Claremont, CA 91711 USA

-Joe

STREET TRASH - DEMO

Four words describe this demo: this demo fucking rips! Fast as fuck California punk rock with high pitched, snotty vocals. I love this! This band features the singer of Knife Fight/ex-guitarist of Lifes' Halt, on guitar. Sort of reminds me of Total Fury from Japan but with a little more of a punk rock feel. I believe they already have a 7 inch out which I have yet to get, but if you like fast, no pauses-hardcore punk, get this fucking demo immediately!

-Joe

THE PROWL - MISERY 10 INCH

I don't understand why more people don't love this fucking band!?! Definitely a strong early '80s California punk feel i.e. T.S.O.L., 45 GRAVE, AGENT ORANGE, SOCIAL DISTORTION, etc... The lyrics and music both have a dark/moody theme and it's obvious that the singer has a horror movie obsession. Features the bassist of LAST IN LINE on vocals and the CD version contains a bonus track of their cover of the SEX PISTOLS' "NO FEELINGS." Get this shit! On Dead Alive Records

-Joe

GIVE UP THE GHOST - LOVE AMERICAN

This is a two-song picture disc featuring one song of their full-length "WE'RE DOWN TILL WE'RE UNDERGROUND" and one unreleased song. The unreleased track is very reminiscent of the second 7 inch songs, fast, short, and angry. The CD version contains their cover of the ARCHERS OF LOAF song "YOU AND ME," which, dare I say it, might be better than the original version. It's worth it to buy this record just for the fucking awesome unreleased song. Get it on Bridge 9 Records.

-Joe

Step On It! - Demo 2003

This demo, released in May 2003 by St. Louis dudes is pretty good. The band played about 5 shows over the course of the summer and then broke up for no good reason. After people bitched at them enough they got back to playing shows and are a permanent band now. Fast as hardcore in the vein of Carry On / A-Team and surprisingly tough breakdowns. If you like Tear It Up, A-Team, etc, check them out. The live shows kill. Lyrics are CHOICE! www.megaradyouth.com/steponit.htm

-Nick217

ANNIHILATION TIME MODERN LIFE IS WAR

TO NO END

THE EFFECT!

January 9, 2003.

Lemp Arts Center, St. Louis

By Devil Dan.

So it's about 7:45 on a frigid Friday night, and I'm riding in the backseat of a car, speeding down Lemp avenue, topless and screaming. Me, Ray, and Leon made a bet, or a dare, or some equally stupid wager that only men would ever be dumb enough to make, to see who could last the longest shirtless with the windows rolled down and the AC blasting. It was probably only 20 degrees or so outside. On top of all of this, I was suffering from bronchitis, or some other infection that I probably should have gone to the doctor about, and a freezeout was probably not the best medicine to help my ailing immune system. But whatever. We finally showed up at the show (after getting lost and prolonging the misery, of course) and continued our display of manly competition by seeing who could walk the slowest to get inside (still half naked). I don't really remember who won. I was blinded by the agony that I was very stoically refusing to display. We all got inside, dressed, and called it a tie. This was, naturally, after we got some confused stares by some of the evening's other show-goers. I was surprised at the number of people in the place....I mean, I had expected there to be a good turnout, as it was a Friday night show and all, but I guess I hadn't anticipated seeing quite as many as there were. It's sort of a bittersweet phenomenon lately....the number of regulars at hardcore shows has been steadily increasing, which is great for the scene in general, but the Lemp (our regular DIY show location) is just winding up getting toooo crowded to even move around in. Still, it's always nice to see new faces. A half hour or so passed, and THE EFFECT! started setting up. This band is quickly becoming one of my favorite local bands, so I'm of course always excited to see them play. After dedicating their set to "almighty jah", the band promptly went on to butcher a Bad Brains song. Well....I guess by "the band", I really just mean "Scott", the drummer. However, we were all assured by the other members that he would never live it down, so apologies were accepted and the rest of the set went smooth as pie. Played all the demo songs, and some new ones that sounded really promising, and threw in a Black Flag cover before it was all over. Again, definitely one of the better bands in the STL right now, in this man's opinion.

After THE EFFECT!'s set, local heroes TO NO END were supposed to play, but their drummer had to back out at the last second....however, in true "the show must go on" spirit, the remaining 3/4ths of the band recruited another rather cocky St. Louis drummer (not me), who SWORE he knew all the songs, as fill-in for the evening. The first song they played was "Stop", a local fave, and the drummer (not me) did fine. This adequacy would not last.

After mangling 2 other TNE songs, the frustrated band gave up and decided to just close with a cover of "Hold Your Ground". When Mr. Wonderdrummer (totally not me) fucked THAT one up, the crowd decided they had had enough and beat him to death. The body was dragged to the gutter and the show continued.

After the 3/4ths of TNE debacle, I was really exhausted from, uh....watching....not from actually playing the drums or anything....and I sat down on the couch for a long breather. ANNIHILATION TIME was setting up. I had downloaded some of their stuff, but hadn't gotten a chance to listen to 'em very much prior to the show, so



MODERN LIFE IS WAR - JANUARY 9, 2003 - PHOTO BY KATE SILVER. WWW.KATESILVERPHOTO.COM

I figured I'd sit this one out and let my bronchitis-ridden body heal for a minute. As soon as they started playing, I stood up on the back of the couch to watch, and was blown away. The guitarist was probably most notable, as he was fuckin' swinging that axe like Paul Bunyon on a coke binge. I don't think very many people were familiar with the band, but it didn't take long for the power of the ROCK to overtake the crowd. The siren song of the circle pit that ensued started calling to me, but I stayed firm in my decision to stay and rest in the back, knowing that I would be exerting a lot of energy when MODERN LIFE IS WAR played. However, as soon as I saw a FIST PUMPING LINE fire up, I could resist no more. The fist pumping line is, I think, a strictly St. Louisian feature of shows. It has only been performed a handful of times, and only when a band is rocking unbelievably righteously hard. I know that TEAR IT UP and DOWN IN FLAMES were treated to a taste a few years back when they came through.

In any case, it's pretty much exactly what it sounds like....basically 20 to 30 kids all line up, about a foot from the band, with one leg forward and one fist in the air. The fist is, naturally, pumped in time with the beat of the song, thereby letting the band know that they have adequately pleased the audience to the point of displaying some completely retarded behavior.

That, friends, is today's dance lesson. Anyway, soon as this started up, I leaped off the couch and ran like hell to the front. I spent the whole rest of the show running and leaping top speed ass-backwards into everything I saw and generally freaking out. I was also clobbered by a wall of death that wound up breaking half of the stuff in the joint, and participated in what was later deemed the "greatest circle pit in Lemp Arts Center history". ANNIHILATION TIME is a band that makes you wanna spit in your principal's face and skip out on detention so you can slam some beers with your friends and carve up the ledges at the local library....BUT JUST THEN the 5-0 shows up and tries to take your boards....but you run and climb the tall fence and get away and moon the cops as they stand helpless on the other side, while you high-five your friends, all the while screaming "You can't touch me, pig!" and

pushing your long sweet skater dude hair out of your eyes. Highly recommended.

After the complete radness of AT, many of us were worried that MODERN LIFE IS WAR was gonna be a letdown, but we were quickly put in our place. They started out with "First and Ellen" off of the LP, and the place erupted. It was hard to really move anywhere, as there were so many bodies flying every direction imaginable, but I think everyone was pushing through it all out of pure excitement. After that was "Breaking the Cycle", and the poor lead singer got attacked by about 20 kids singing along. "This marks the return of a threat...." Incredible. Then, and I swear to you this is true....the weirdest thing happened.

I looked over, to my right, and I saw my good friend Greg....he had this crazy look in his eye, and he suddenly stopped moving altogether. He was just standing there, kinda eyeballin' the whole place....and then, like some kinda fuckin' tiger or something, he pounced! Poor Andrew Diaz fell victim to this ferocious feral attack, and as he fought for his life against the beast, Greg fucking ate him! I saw it with my own two eyes. I'm sure some of you have noticed that THE EFFECT! has been looking for a new bassist lately....well now you know why. R.I.P. Andrew, coolest 16 year old ever to be eaten at a show. After licking the bones clean, Greg snapped out of it I guess, cause he just sorta stepped back like he didn't know where he was and then went back to singing and dancing like normal. If you look close at pictures from the show, though, you can see the blood in his mouth. Hand to god.

In any case, MLIW went on with their set and fucking killllllled. I had to go outside in the middle to take a breather when illness, heat, and exhaustion finally caught up to me. All in all, the whole show was fucking incredible. On a more personal note though, I would like to use this forum to publicly apologize to Mark and everyone on the board of the Lemp for flipping the building over during "By the Sea". My sincerest apologies also go out to the families of those that were buried in the rubble, and to everyone in all the cities that ANNIHILATION TIME had to cancel on their tour. We hope to find their bassist and drummer very soon.



SideWalk jams on Feb. 17, 2004.

All photos by Kate Silver of www.katesilverphoto.com

Sidewalk, Step On It, Cardiac Arrest, Go for It rock on Valentine's Day

By Nick 217

On the lover's holiday, you know, the one made up by greetings card companies to squeeze a few extra bucks out of hopeless romantics, there was a hardcore show. No signs of roses, boxed chocolates, or public displays of affection were to be found. I did see a few "hello kitty" valentines though. Anyway, about 50 people had the right idea and showed up at the Lemp for a night of thrashin'. Thrashin' and possibly some *love*.

Up first was this band full of junior high / high school kids called GO FOR IT! from southern Illinois, Herrin to be exact. Musically, they played a "rip-roaring, white-knuckle roller-coaster ride" set of songs. Really, I just wanted to throw that in there in order to sound as much like movie reviewer Joel Siegel as possible. They played fast hardcore, and I was impressed at the amount of songs they had down, how complete they sounded, and the vocals were pretty rough for the singer being like 14 or something. They also covered "Ashcroft" by Suicide File. And no, they don't care about the "five year rule."

Up next was the recently off-hiatus Cardiac Arrest (St. Louis). Fronted by a singer who constantly wears a green bandanna at all times, Cardiac Arrest reminds me of early '80s Boston hardcore. It's short, fast, and above all, short. Did I already say that? Vocals are gargly, like the singer of the A-Team crossed with Springa (SSD). Like I said, Boston hardcore. They have a demo out, and the steady stream of lineup changes has not slowed this

band down in the slightest. I'm pretty sure Rob Ruz (vocals) will be fronting this band when he's 45.



Sidewalk sing along!

After Cardiac Arrest finished their blistering, under-15-minutes set, Chicago's Sidewalk played. This band gets compared to Floor-punch a lot. The vocals are up there in range, the music is stompy hardcore and lyrics focus on the straight edge, keeping a positive mindset, and the hardcore scene—pretty much all stuff hardcore fans can relate to. They put on what was probably one of the best debut shows in the past year from an out of town band. They even did a few covers, including Project-X and Side By Side. Sidewalk has a demo out, and a 7" EP will be out by the time you read this on Chicago's Organized Crime Records.

St. Louis' Step On It! played afterward. I have yet to see this band get a bad crowd response. The style of the band ranges from short and fast to mid length and varied. Lyrics are outwardly angry at times, and at others, completely hilarious. They played a few new songs off an upcoming 7", and all the songs off the demo, plus a Green Day cover to end the set. Judging by the local response this band has gotten over the past 10 months, Step On It! will be playing shows forever—we can only hope. They just recorded a bunch of songs for a 12" EP, bought a van, are looking for a label, and are touring this summer. Lots of movement and sing alongs for this set.

The show ended, I sold out of fanzines, didn't make enough money to get more printed, so I'll once again be selling records to put it out.

- www.stlpunk.com and search for "Cardiac Arrest," "Step On It!," and "Go For It" for info on all bands.

- www.chicagohardcore.net for info on Sidewalk



A-TEAM



This interview was Done with John Clark, singer of the A-Team, shortly before they broke up in November of 2003.

SFY: Alright, you know this is coming: why is the A-Team breaking up?

John Clark: The A-Team decided to call it quits because we weren't really a band anymore. Jimmy was touring a lot with other bands and we didn't wanna be a band that wrote or played shows when 'there was time.' So we just decided to call it quits. SFY: are the rest of you going on to better things?

John Clark: Q, Brian, and myself are starting a band with John from TIU and I'm sure Jimmy will be playing music with other bands as well. We're all on good terms though.

SFY: how is Boston taking it? how has Boston treated you?

John Clark: I guess our friends are bummed out we're calling it quits. I mean we'd play in Boston and have 30 kids show up but when rare records are available...they come out of the woodwork. It's pathetic. We owe "Boston Hardcore" nothing.

SFY: can you describe to us what it was like to play st. louis?...For the sake of St. Louis' ego?

John Clark: Haha sure. St Louis definitely stands out in my mind as one of the most fun shows we've ever played. It was almost bizarre to see the reaction we got because we don't even get that in Mass. It's one of those shows you'll always remember.

SFY: Ok, well, I heard you guys hate minorities and gays, and think women are objects, how's that working out?

John Clark: It's working out great. we've really made a name for ourselves in the WP scene. I think we're gonna take the movement to the next level.

SFY: Righteous, more messageboard drama for me! Why is BA afraid of flying?

John Clark: I can't say I know the man that well. Despite our name, I am not the authority on A-Team (tv show) trivia or knowledge.

SFY: Fair enough. Alright, well give me a top five existing bands rundown.

John Clark: 1) Career Suicide, 2) Think I Care, 3) Fit For Abuse (yes they count), 4) Tragedy... umm....

SFY: Interpol?? Blood Brothers?

John Clark: Violent Minds... That's what I'll say.

SFY: Thank you for not including some sappy indie band.

John Clark: WRONG guy.

SFY: Huh? There's a dude in the band that would have? Who in the band worships The Smiths?

John Clark: I meant you're interviewing the wrong guy to talk about interpol...Nobody worshipped The Smiths in this band. I think Jimmy listened to them on occasion but for the most part they were a band we never got into...

SFY: what are some bands you're not supposed to be into but are?

John Clark: I have a 'checkered' past so I like a lot of 3rd wave ska bands. The Scofflaws, Mephiskpheles, Allstonians...

SFY: What would you-- and the A-Team as a band-- like to see more of when you go to a show?

John Clark: Participation. Kids don't dance hard up here anymore. They just stand around because they don't wanna look stupid. "It's all about style now maaaaan." People should just go nuts if they feel it. It's not like moshing is the most graceful thing in the world.



A-TEAM IN ST LOUIS --SUMMER 2003 @ THE LEMP ARTS CENTER

SFY: What about the kickboxing these kids seem to enjoy?

John Clark: Thats something I used to see in '97-'98 but not so much anymore. Mainly because the bands I support or like don't play to those type of hc thuggish ruggish types

SFY: The midwest is always at least five years behind so talking to someone from the coast is like looking into the future (I highly disagree with this statement -nick217).

John Clark: But yea, kickboxing is a style war too. It's ridiculous.

SFY: Alright, well how psyched are you on the new "Lord of the Rings?"

John Clark: Siked beyond words. I can't fathom watching the final installment... I'm going to get really high, sit back, and just watch this movie change my life.

SFY: How does such a laid-back nice guy write such terribly pissed off lyrics?

John Clark: Mainly because if I didn't have that outlet, all this shit would consume me. That's why continuing to play music is so important. It's a great balance.

SFY: Are you ever not in bands?

John Clark: I've been in bands since I was 15, so no not really.

SFY: What was the worst day of your life?

John Clark: damn.

SFY: ...And, if you don't like that one, what other notable bands have you been in?

John Clark: I mean I can tell you miserable drinking stories but in terms of real life events, I'd say the day my grandfather died when I was in high school. 'Cause we were so close...I have never done much of anything notable. Just some stupid local shit.

SFY: Alright. Well, say EVERYTHING you want to say now. Last chance, this zine is gonna be HUGE.

John Clark: Ok a couple of things...

1) Malt Liquor is the best form of alcohol,

2) Don't conform to the hardcore status quo,

3) Stay in school, don't give up on the chance of being educated to be 'punk' in a bumout society.

Those are my words of wisdom.

Check out the A-Team's final 7" on Painkiller records they also have a split ep out with R'N'R on Rocket Punch records.

Photos by Shannon -- Interview done by Scott Plant.

DANCE

FLOOR

JUSTIN

Living in Southern Illinois you dont get to see many hardcore shows, but St. Louis is only two hours away, and Nashville is only 3 hours. After going to see Mental this summer in Nashville we hooked up with the drummer, "Dance Floor" Justin when we went with him to buy one of those oversized foam cowboy hats to play the show in. A few months later we were down there to see the R'N'R/Say GoodBye tour, and we ended up hangin' out with DFJ again and that's when he agreed to do this interview... - "Herrin" Josh Russell

SFY: How did you get into hardcore? Also what was your first hardcore show?

DFJ: I got into speed metal like metallica and slayer towards the end of junior high and I eventually got into hardcore because I liked it FAST. It was a natural progression for me. My first hardcore shows were in 1995 seeing local bands around boston...namely tree, Sam Black Church, Adversary, etc. It was pretty cool because there were a lot of all ages venues around town.



DJF Playing with R'N'R. photo: ???

SFY: How long have you been straight edge and vegetarian and how did you get into that?

DFJ: I have never done drugs in my life but i started to call myself straight edge when I was 15. I also got into vegetarianism around the same time. It was cool because at the time veg. and straight edge were like synonymous with each other. Its like, if you were straight edge, then the odds are you were vegetarian or vegan which is weird because vegetarianism doesn't seem as essential as it was when I first got into the 'core'.

SFY: What are your currents bands/project that you're working with?

DFJ: I'm currently playing drums for Mental, R'N'R, Righteous Jams, The Wrong Side (FKA Dumptruck), and I sing in a somewhat active side project called Mind Eraser. I do studio stuff with this death metal band called Funebrarum. We put out a 7" not too long ago. I also play drums in another side project called Taste Of Fear. We just did a new recording for the upcoming Taste Of Fear discography coming out on throne records (www.thronerrecords.com).

I stay fuckin busy.

SFY: How did the R'N'R/ Say Goodbye tour go for you guys?

DFJ: shit fuckin ruuuuuled!!! We all got the sniffles from being in Toronto one day and then were in sunny Florida a few days later. I'm surprised I didn't kill Joe Hawk and Eric Yu. Everything ran very smoothly. A little too smooth. I was getting worried that something awful was gonna happen at the end because of how ideal the tour went.

Hanging out with Say Goodbye every night was more than a pleasure. I love to tour. I'd say the MVP of the tour goes to Joe Shumsky simply for sporting nothing but STARTER apparel the entire time.

SFY: Any good tour stories you'd like to share?

DFJ: Nothing too scandalous. No giving drugs to underage girls or anything like that. Just clean punk rock fun. I shat in someone's litter box. My favorite part of the tour was probably our trip to Disney World. We had a day off and we were in Florida so we met up there with my parents who happened to be vacationing that week. People mustve been terrified on seeing 11 shabby hardcore dudes walking around the Magic Kingdom. Joe Hawk stole some little girl's ice cream bar and mouse ears and made her cry. We caught it on film and it will be part of the upcoming RNR/Say Goodbye DVD on Rocket Punch Records.

SFY: What are you thoughts on the current state of hardcore?

DFJ: I enjoy it. I think there are more good bands now than there were a couple of years ago. I wish we still had he Berwick (a venue in Boston that had all-ages shows). As far as on a larger scale, I'm impressed with the enthusiasm on the 'core in other states. I had never been to Cali' until last month when I was out on tour with Mental but everyone seemed really excited about shows and supporting bands. In fact, I was probably even more surprised about all the die hards who I met on the RNR/say goodbye tour. Some of these kids drove hours and hours (LIKE YOU!) to catch our shows. I don't mean to sound ignorant but I just figured we would be playing to mostly local hicks and goofballs in most of the towns we had never played before. I don't know if its always been like this, but nonetheless, I was pleasantly surprised.

SFY: What do you think about Mental records going for mega-loot on eBay?

DFJ: It's Hilarious. I dont think its a good investment, but whatever, if kids want to pay all this money for a record then so be it. I have some of Dookie's old guitar picks and broken drumsticks that I am willing to part with as well...get in touch!

SFY: Also, what do you think about the "getting low" craze?

DFJ: Hal it's not like a do a lot of interviews, but in almost every one I do, they ask me this question!!! It's not really my style and I dont think it looks particularly cool but I dont think it's anything to get outraged over. Not to sound important but it seems that Mental and the whole Lockin' Out crew as a whole has sort of been branded as the ones who brought this style "back" or something. Fuck it, I'd rather be known for that than bringing back JNCO's and facial piercings in HC!

SFY: How is the Boston Scene these days?

DFJ: Shit fuckin' rooooooooooolz. I don't have much to complain about it...We have shows regularly and touring bands make it a priority to hit us up. Sometimes the abundance of 19-year old jaded hardcore cynics can be obnoxious, but I probably went through the phase myself... A lot of people complain about the whole cocaine fashion scene up here, but it doesn't really effect the HC scene because they don't go to shows.

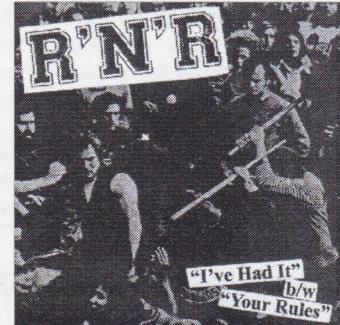
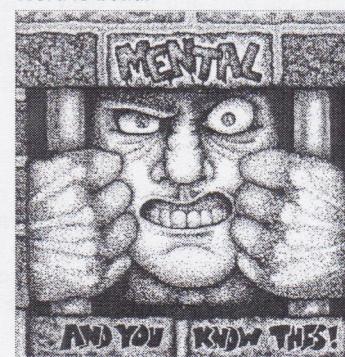
SFY: Are there any bands/project that we should be checking out?

DFJ: If you havent already...Think I Care, Say Goodbye, Desperate Measures, So Be It, DrugX-Test, Knife Fight, Street Trash, Pale Horse, Annihilation Time, The Prowl, Tarpit, SBV (Silent But Violent), Internal Affairs, Outbreak, Worn Thin, Career Suicide, Breathing fire... Some cool shit overseas like Wolfbrigade and the new Disfear shit.... This is just off the top of my cranium...There's a million and a half bands to check out

SFY: Lastly, thanks a lot for doing the interview. Is there anybody you make a shout outs to?

DFJ: Shout outs to southern Illinois, St. Louis, and all the other places that we (or one of my bands) are going to hit up sometime in the near future. Shout outs to all the kids that let us stay at their place and make a mess...

www.lockinout.com,
www.painkillerrecords.com,
e-mail me at laminmaya@aol.com
Word is bond.



STAND & FIGHT

Stand and Fight are from from Orange County California. They play hardcore like it should be, fast and pissed off. Here is an email interview I did with Greg (guitar) in December '03.

- Adam the Devastator

SFY Fanzine: Thanks for taking the time to do this interview. Can you name all the dudes and their history with hardcore before Stand and Fight became a band?

Greg: Kevin Jaros plays guitar. He's so old that he saw Minor Threat. Hank, our 2nd guitarist is our most recent addition to the band. Kevin Chaffey plays drums and before S&F played in No Reply. Wrench sings and I play bass.

SFY Fanzine: I was lucky enough to see you guys in a basement in Dekalb, IL in October '02. Do you guys play bigger venues normally, or smaller D.I.Y. spaces/basement type environments?

Greg: 75% of the shows we play are in smaller venues and I don't see it changing any time soon. At the level we're at right now, we feel more comfortable playing in smaller places.

SFY Fanzine: Also you guys had a different name at that show. You were known as Impact. It's a common word I guess, but was there another band named that? Or did you guys want to change your name?

Greg: After the demo came out, it came to our attention that a bunch of other zines/bands had also shared the name Impact. Most of the bands had been broken up for some time, but there was one that threatened to take legal action. Instead of going through the same problems that AN/GUTG had, we opted to change our name.

SFY Fanzine: How was the east coast tour with Internal Affairs and Blacklisted? Did you guys play with any other rad bands?

Greg: The tour was awesome. All the dudes in both bands were a lot of fun to hang out with and they both consistently played good sets. IA has a new EP out on Malfunction and Blacklisted is coming out with a new record on Walk All Night/Stillborn. Both records are definitely worth picking up. We were able to play a few shows with Down To Nothing, Have Heart, and Drug Test-- all of whom are also worth checking out.

SFY Fanzine: Do you guys plan on doing a midwest tour in the near future? We would love to have you guys in St. Louis!

Greg: Until Summer comes around, it's not too likely we'll be coming through St. Louis. We really want to, but three of us are in school so chances are we're going to have to stick to the coasts until school's out.

SFY Fanzine: Posi Numbers. What can I say? You guys played a Floopunch cover and everyone went ape shit. What were some other highlights from that weekend at Posi Numbers?

Greg: That set was by far the best show we've had. It amazed me to get that strong of a response. Other than that, it was awesome seeing Suicide File, Slapshot, Integrity, Down To Nothing, In the Red, the cinnamon challenge, and just being able to hang out with a bunch of awesome people. The only downside to the weekend was getting a broken windshield.

SFY Fanzine: How do you guys like working with Bridge 9 Records? They have a great family of bands on their roster. Do you guys plan to record for a full-length anytime soon?

Greg: B9 is awesome to work with. They've been able to give us everything we've wanted. We've been working on writing songs for our B9 full-length since tour. I'm psyched on how the songs are turning out and can't wait to record them, but I'm not sure how long it'll take to finish writing all the songs. I want to say that we'll be able to record before Summer, but we're not going to rush the writing process.

SFY Fanzine: What are some newer bands that you have been jocking? Tell me what is on your all-time playlist?

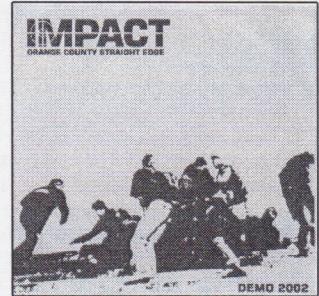
Greg: I've been listening to a lot of Down to Nothing, The Mistake, Internal Affairs, Street Trash, Goodbye Forever, The First Step, Annihilation Time, Holier Than Thou?, Amendment 18, Wrangler Brutes and Mental. My top 5 hardcore cds as of right now would include, the Minor Threat discography, Negative FX/Last Rites, Youth Of Today "We're Not In This Alone," Bad Brains "ROIR," and Black Flag "First Four Years".

SFY Fanzine: You guys are from California, where is your SURFING song?

Greg: C'mon dude, who do you think we are, the Beach Boys?

SFY Fanzine: You give your shoot outs here.

Greg: Thanks to Adam for the interview.



The first demo cd when they were known as "IMPACT"



Photo taken from S&F 7" ep on Bridge 9.
By Colby Black, Lauren Ceike or Corey Williams

At 2 AM in late November, I was doing my usual routine of typing random phrases and nouns into Google image search for ideas for flyers, art projects, etc., when by some stroke of fate I entered in the words:

"Karate Studio". There were something like five-million hits, and the search revealed photos of fifty year old men with beer guts and bald-spots wearing kimonos and breaking boards with their faces. But on about the sixth page I looked at I came across a familiar face. It was the entrance page for a website about a karate dojo in southern California, and pictured was a man in his mid-thirties with a pony tail and a emotionless, focused look on his face. It took me about four or five minutes to realize that the greasy sensai I was looking at was none other than Jason David Frank or as he was known by millions of six to twelve year olds in the mid-nineties: The Green Ranger. Something struck me, I had to gettin contact with this guy, I had to interview him. So I contacted the dojo and made up a long bullshit story about how I was writing a paper about what "real" martial-artists think about martial-arts movies and requested all of their dojo's instructor's email addresses. I got a response the very next day with not only their emails, but their home phone numbers and instant messenger names. I took JDF's and put him on my buddylist (RisingSunJDF if anyone's curious) and played the most anxious waiting game of my life. I sat on the

In The Shadow of the Green Ranger

BY ANDREW SMITH,
SFY CELEBRITY REPORTER.

fucking computer at least double what I normally do for at least two weeks until finally he logged on, and the interview below is what transpired. (READER'S NOTE: In the interview where in parenthesis it says things like "long pause" or "laughs hysterically", yeah, those were written in by Jason himself during the interview. Just thought I'd bring that up. Oh and by the way, this guy is really fucking cool.)

Hello Jason, I'd just like to thank you in advance for giving me your time tonight.

You're welcome, man. Anything for a fan.

That's the way to be. So I guess my first question is: Now that it's been almost a decade since you donned the green spandex-
(laughing hysterically) And white! You can't forget white!

Right. (long pause) Well it's been almost a decade since you've played Tommy Oliver in Power Rangers, and I was just wondering, looking back on it, don't you think the show was really fucking ridiculous?

(still laughing) Of course it was! That was half the fun! Every week we got to explore a whole new part of our imagination, and re-live a little bit of our childhood. It was really the best job a nineteen year old could ask for. It was a great chance to be exposed to the whole entertainment "biz".

So for my next question: Are you envious that some of the other rangers went on to do bigger and better things while you retired from the "biz" after a mere two years?

Bigger and better? (laughs) Who in the cast actually went on to do anything else?

Amy Jo Johnson (Pink Ranger). She was on Felicity for like three years and I see her in movies every so once in a while.

Yeah. I guess so.

I'm gonna take a wild guess and say that the "rangers" don't keep in touch that often?

No, never. I ran into David(Yost, Blue Ranger) not even a year ago at a karate charity event my studio helps out with. We only talked briefly.

Ouch.

You know, it's really not that big of a deal. We were never even that close to begin with.

What about when Thuy Trang (Trini, Yellow Ranger) died, did any of you guys go to the funeral?

I didn't go, no... I didn't feel as though it was my place actually. We never kept in touch and it had been like seven years since we had even spoken to each other so I decided to not go. My family did however pray for her after we heard. Were they all jealous of you? Ya know, because you were the new guy who became the most popular character in that show's history?

I don't know, maybe they were. Like I said, we were never close and none of us ever hung out outside of the set or anything. We all had wives or husbands and most of us had children.

Jesus. At nineteen? So was it weird playing a high school kid who was faced with the complete annihilation of the earth as we know it from a witch and a demon who live on the moon and create destructive monsters out of clay?I mean, that had to be a tough acting job considering you had no experience to base any of it on.

(long pause) You know, now that you say the premise out loud like that, the whole thing does feel kinda silly.

Hey, I never said it was silly. I used to fucking love the show. Can I ask you something kinda weird?

No, I didn't sleep with anyone in the cast! (laughing uncontrollably)

No... I just wanted to know if you ever hung out with Paul Schrier or Jason Narvy(Bulk and Skull)?

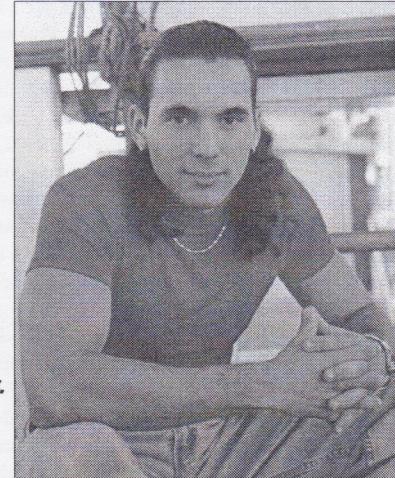
No actually, we never really shot scenes with them. If you remember from the show, we were usually off saving the day while they were attempting to discover our true identities. The only time we were ever in the same scene together would be at the juice bar.

Did Paul Schrier's (Bulk) obesity get worse as the show continue or was that just my imagination?

Hey now, Paul is one of the nicest people I have ever met. And I don't see how his weight should have anything to do with that.



His very own action figure.



Jason David Frank
The Green Ranger Today.

Sorry, that was out of line... So I guess the next logical question would be to ask you what you are up to lately?

Well I just shot a pilot that will hopefully be picked up for syndication later next year.

"The Privateers?"

Wow, you really know your stuff.

I found it on IMDB. (www.imdb.com - ed)

Where?

Forget it. What's the show about?

It's a sci-fi show, about a group of explorers on a ship out in space-

Like Star Trek?

They aren't out there willingly, they are marooned out in the middle of space never to be saved.

Like Star Trek: Voyager?

Sure, I guess so. So anyway, The Privateers isn't so much a show about space as it is about people, it just so happens to use the spectacular stage of the galaxy as its backdrop. It's all about people who despite all of their advantages with technology and science, must fight everyday with their souls, sometimes winning, sometimes losing. It's about adventure, in a universe of danger, passion, comedy and wonder.

Holy shit. Yup. Pretty "deep" stuff, huh?

Sure. I don't want to take up too much of your time Jason, so to end this interview I think you should tell us a piece of gossip about one of the Power Rangers that no one knows.

Hmmmm. Okay, Walter Jones (Black Ranger) is missing the middle finger on his left hand.

We always used to just shoot around it.

Holy shit. What an ending. Thanks a lot, and good luck with your pilot.

Thank you, too, Andrew. And good luck with your magazine thing.

The Three B's

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HARDCORE.

I'm Andy.

I support the Three B's philosophy of life, in which the road to true happiness is a threefold path.

The First Road involves drinking a wide variety of beers. Be they cheap, expensive, domestic, or foreign, it doesn't matter. As long as it's frosty.

The Second Road requires reading, understanding, and retaining the knowledge found in well-written books on many different subjects, from true crime and rock journalism to esoteric metaphysics and pulp science fiction novels and beyond.

The Third Road is the most difficult of all. One must listen to the sublime sounds of black metal. It takes some work, but if one can develop an ear for it, the transcendental beauty of this perfect and gnarly art can be soul-soothing on a deeply intimate level.

The fact that each of these components start with the letter B is no accident. In the Elder Futhark, the runic alphabet used by Germanic peoples from about 100 BCE to 1600 CE, the letter B is signified by the Berkano, which looks similar to our modern letter. The rune itself is named after Berchta, a minor goddess of birch trees in Germanic lore, and symbolizes mental, physical, and personal growth as well as spiritual and creative development and the arousal of desire. What do these concepts all have in common? They all stem from enlightenment.

Some background info is required here. The Elder Futhark is composed of 24 runes, divided into three Aetts of 8 runes each. The first Aett is Freya's. She is the Goddess of Love and Fertility. The second is Heimdall's Aett. He is the God of Light who can see 100 miles and hear the grass growing. The third Aett is Tyr's. He is a God of justice and courage, as well as a patron of both art and the warrior spirit. Tyr is the oldest of the Germanic gods, and the basis of the high god Odin. Tyr's name along with the Latin 'deo' combined to form the modern English root 'theo-' which is related to God. Berkano is the second rune of Tyr's Aett.

Back to enlightenment. The Eastern 'Third Eye' concept comes into play here.

The First Eye is Freya. We all are born with this eye open. This is life itself. This eye is also potential, something we're all born with as well. Beer, or alcohol in general, as is well known, is the nectar of life, the distilled spirit of the gods. Freya is said to have brewed strong drink from golden apples that prevented the people under her care from withering.

The Second Eye is Heimdall. This eye opens slowly over the course of one's life, and represents experience, knowledge gained, as well as the finding of one's place in society, and the establishment of family and friendship. Books have their place here, for who can learn without reading? The understanding and interpreting of symbols in general, be they



letters on a page or patterns in ivy on a wall, is key to the human's relationships with this world.

The Third Eye is Tyr. As the sum of one's potential and experience, Tyr is what we should all strive to attain. Not everyone's third Eye is opened before his/her death, and sometimes not even then. Tyr is a proto-god and bringer of justice. As such, he is archetypal of all deities. Tyr, as the precursor to Odin, is all-seeing and all-knowing. He is the epitome of the enlightened self. Black metal is the audial representation of all this. Also the inner journey that precedes the opening of the Third Eye can only be traversed on the cold riffs and breakneck pace of this music.

The Berkano, B, is the second rune of Tyr's Aett, following only the T rune, Taiwaz (Tyr) itself. The consequence of this should be plain: as the logical result of the Third Eye of Tyr, the Berkano's attributes, distilled to the basic forms of beer, books, and black metal, each representing one stage in the development of ultimate consciousness, are the true road to enlightenment and happiness.

This philosophy is also related to the physiology of the human brain. There are three 'layers' in the human brain, the deepest being the oldest, whereas the other two developed later over time.

The deepest layer is known as the spinal chassis. This is basically just a little nub at the top of our spinal column. The chassis controls all of our basic functions, such as breathing, knowing when we're hungry, blinking, etc. In a way this parallels the First Road (Beer) in that these functions are inherent in us from the start, inherent in fact in all living creatures.

The middle region of the brain is known as the limbic region. This area is the base for emotions and awareness of one's surroundings. Animals with developed limbic regions develop social structures and care for their young. The limbic region therefore is analogous to the Second Road (Books).

The outermost part of the brain is the neocortex. This is highly developed in only one species on earth: humans. The function of the neocortex, in brief terms, is to interpret complex signals from the environment. Language, culture, and art come from this layer. As opposed to the limbic region controlling awareness of our surroundings, the neocortex allows us to become self-aware, to not take things as they are, to look for deeper meanings. I equate this part of the brain with the Third and Final Road (Black Metal). It is the last leg on the journey towards the opening of Tyr's Eye and total enlightenment.

This personal philosophy of mine was inspired by many ideas. The writings of Joseph Campbell and Carl Sagan were especially influential. Also I'll say that Grant Morrison and Kahlil Gibran guided me towards the Three B's. But what originally got me thinking about this was a quote from one of my favorite movies, *Joe Vs. The Volcano*: "...almost the whole world is asleep. Everybody you know. Everybody you see. Everybody you talk to...only a few people are awake and they live in a state of constant total amazement."

Take it to heart, folks. You can't make this stuff up.

andrew_jh@sbcglobal.net

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF columns

two very different columns, on one wonderful page. eat it up, jerks.

Yeah, I was pretty stoked when I found out Captain PosiCore (a.k.a. Nick) had a zine, and I was really excited to write for it; I was convinced that this was my chance to dazzle everybody with my extensive knowledge of politics, foreign affairs, theology... oh, you would have been impressed; I know it.

Instead, Nick suggested I write an article about what it's like being a hard core mom. Wow. What an excellent opportunity to delve into the social implications of parenting while being a part of an alternative subculture. I sat down to pick apart this incredibly complicated issue, and I came to one conclusion that made me realize what a pseudo-intellectual jack ass I am.

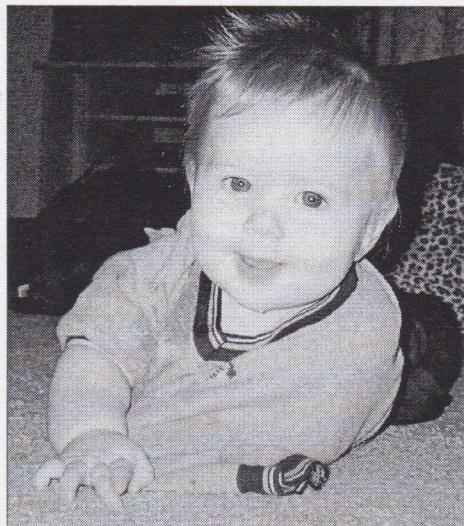
This incredibly complicated issue isn't really all that complicated. In fact, I would go so far as to say that it's pretty simple.

Normal adjustments that go along with being a new parent aside (lack of sleep, lack of money, lack of time), I don't think I've made any earth shattering changes to my life. Being a parent has turned out to be more about compromises and slight alterations in the way I used to do things; I didn't have to re-

Aright, so Nick217 wants a piece on graffiti for this issue, and this is his zine, so you're gonna have to deal with it. Yeah, I know this is a hardcore zine and graff is more hip-hop subject matter, but if you don't like hip-hop you're fuckin retarded. And let's face it... what's more punk rock than good, old-fashioned vandalism? So, sit back & relax. My name is Suga456, and I'll be your guide on this quick tour of St. Louis graffiti. I'll even do my best to put a hardcore spin on it.

Let's start with crews (your hxc ears just perked up, didn't they?): Low Down is on top in St. Louis. They got the best writers & the most work. My crew is Kill Crue, which didn't start off as a graffiti crew, but since three of us write (Solo, Guns, and I), it just kinda became one. Now, you don't necessarily need a crew, but it helps to have people to paint with and people who are down for you. Case in point: Hover, AKA Redd Foxx. This guy's probly the best writer outta St. Louis. He's got style, a lot of work up, and he's a nice guy to boot. He even used to have a piece you could see from the arch. Unfortunately, LD's got beef with him (rumor has it he turned down a chance to be in their crew), so they go over all his shit. I've seen this guy make up names on the spot to avoid gettin gone over. But, that's enough about crews. Let's move on, shall we....

Beef: It's what's for dinner, and it's what makes graffiti what it is. Havin beef with another writer just makes it more interesting. It pushes you to get more spots, better spots, and with more style. To illustrate, let me tell a story. So a couple months ago I'm checkin out one of my favorite spots with Solo, and some clowns we never heard of had written all over



Above: Xavier, the wonder child.

invent myself or my way of life. I still come out to shows when I have the time, I still hang out with the people I used to, and, yes, I still listen to the same music. Xavier, my son, listens to it, too, and to tell you the truth, I think he kind of likes it.

It's not like my tattoos have slowly been fading

since the day he was born, or I have this uncontrollable urge to mellow out and listen to John Tesh because I'm a parent. Granted, I probably won't be hitting any out of town fests this summer; I wouldn't be comfortable leaving him for that long. That's one of the compromises you make when you have another little life depending on you. But I still go to shows, even some out of town shows, and I still have the vocabulary of a sailor.

I think an important part of this scene is staying true to yourself, and that's something I hope to pass on to Xavier.

So being hard core and being a mom at the same time isn't really too much of a juggling act; it's more like the two can go hand-in-hand pretty nicely.

-Brennan Peters

Brennan is a great writer, but she had no clue what to write about when I asked her about the zine, so I suggested this topic, which I think is important because most hardcore guys and girls today don't really have to worry about anything other than records and t-shirts from 1988. So EXPECT something much better from ol' B. Peters soon. Don't think I'm some chauvinistic pig. Actually, go ahead and think that.

-Nick



our shit. "Fuk KC. Fuk Str8 Edge. SOLO can suck a fat dick." See, Solo's sXe, and I guess these guys thought they could make a name for their new crew (Shadow Crusadaz & Stick 'Em Up) by actin tough. Solo gave 'em a warning, coverin up this guy Mog's piece (even stole his crown) and left the message "Don't start no shit, won't be no shit." That's how the Str8 Edge style wars started. It wasn't long after that that I went by Solo's place to pick him up and there was a message painted right across from his apartment from another crew. Mung and Pryse from All Out had written "Solo Blows -All Out". We had a laugh about it and went bombin'.

Now, I'm not straight edge myself, but since Solo's my boy I make it a point to cross out as much All Out and Stick 'Em Up stuff as I can. Now, Mung and Pryse from All Out actually do

nice work and aren't afraid to have beef with anybody, so even though I hate 'em, I gotta respect that. Mog, on the other hand, from SEU actually came and wrote an apology to Solo after he got crossed out. What a toy (a toy in graff terms is the equivalent of a poser in skateboarding). It's a shame too, cuz he can actually paint pretty well. Anyway, now I just mess with him cuz it's fun. I've rambled on about this shit for long enough. I probly lost most of you a while back, so I'll just leave you with some pictures and a quick shout out to Step On It, the Effect!, and the Requiem.... word.



SPEAK FOR YOURSELF

SHOW - DEC. 20, 2003
@ THE LEMP ARTS CENTER

Photos by Kate Silver



The Effect!



Cardiac Arrest



Step On It!



Step On It!



Kill Me Kate



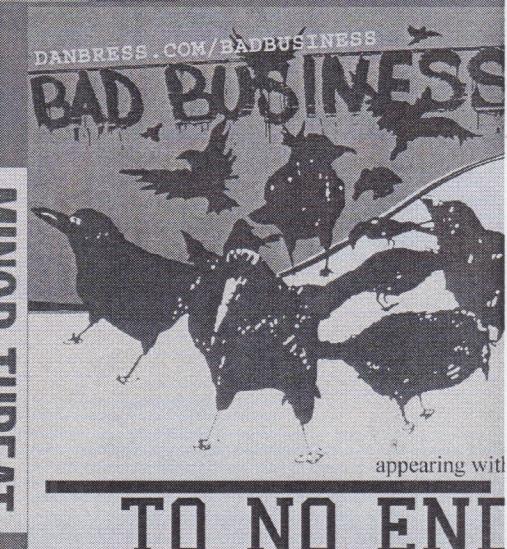
Cardiac Arrest



Kill Me Kate

Not Pictured: NO CONTROL

BRIDGE NINE RECORDS - P.O. BOX 990052, BOSTON, MA 02199-0052 USA
www.BRIDGE9.com SEND \$2 FOR A CATALOG/STICKERS/ETC...





Ben Smith of Corbetta Corbata fame treats a fan with a rare autograph.
photo by shannon

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF FANZINE - ST. LOUIS